# Public Libraries

(Except August and September)

Vol. 6

October, 1901

No. 8

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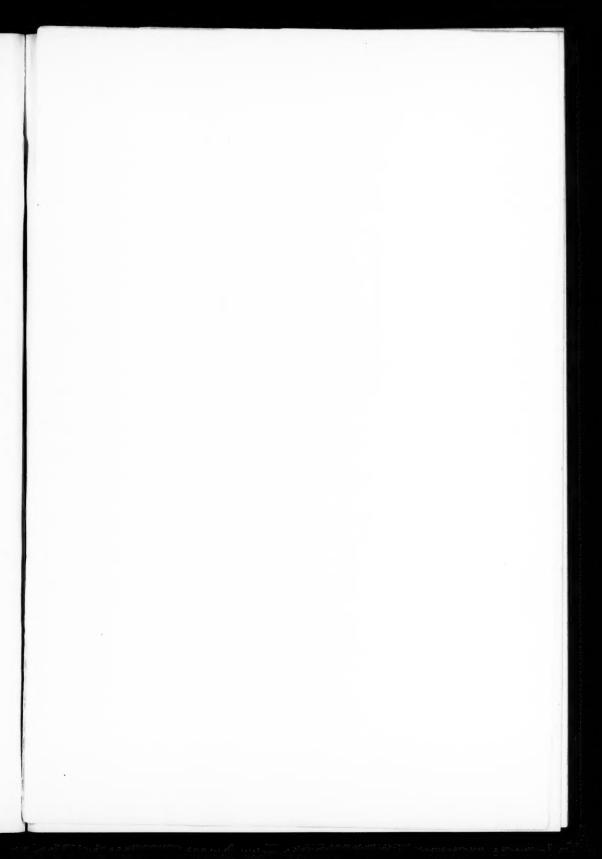
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# Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

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### Proceedings of the A. L. A.

Waukesha, July 4-10, 1901

The twenty-third annual meeting of the A. L. A. was held at Waukesha, Wis., with an enthusiasm and interest that has not been equaled more than two or three times in the history of the association.

On Wednesday evening, July 3, the halls and parlors of the Fountain Spring house were thronged with those who were already on the ground ready and eager to welcome the guests who continued to arrive from early evening until three o'clock the next morning, this latter section comprising eastern librarians who were delayed by railroad interruptions in Michigan.

Thursday morning, July 4, was spent by the body of visitors in exploring the region about the hotel, renewing old acquaintances and making new ones on the verandas, and speculating as to what could be occupying the attention of the A. L. A. council, as its murmurs of conference fell on the ear. from time to time, of the passersby from the parlors where they held their session during the entire morning.

The afternoon was given up to the reunion of various library associations, state, city, and local. For the most part these meetings simply looked over the field in the various states, discussed the conditions and the plans necessary to meet them, with a conference as to the people and the subjects to be discussed at the coming annual meeting of the most of them.

sessions with discussion of topics of interest in their different localities.

Thursday evening the first general session was held in the Presbyterian church, and although the atmosphere was so heated that it made listening most uncomfortable, a full house sat through the different addresses of the evening. The session opened with the president's address:

### Being a librarian

Henry J. Carr

Cotemporaneous with the organization of this association Melvil Dewey made the following decided and wellsupported assertion: The time has at last come when a librarian may, without assumption, speak of his occupation as a profession. I cite Mr Dewey's words, not as necessarily conclusive, but because he has ever been an active and constant supporter of that doctrine in both his work as a librarian, as a noted stimulator of the library movement, and as an originator of professional instruction of other librarians. Similar enthusiastic and persistent efforts on the part of librarians generally may do much toward the furtherance of such features, and the consequent development of librarianship as a profession in all its aspects.

All other professions now depend to a considerable extent upon that of the librarian for the custodianship of their literature, without whose care much of it might be lost. We may not be able to transmit to future eras such enduring records of antiquity as has been done Wisconsin and Illinois had regular by the librarian of old in his collection of clay tablets; but it is certain that we are doing our part toward making a modern literature available, in disseminating it and in preserving it as far as

lies in our power.

In some of the professions, both the so-called "learned" and the practical ones, there have been developed certain well recognized differentiations and specializations of professional work. Those lines have usually been taken up in response to what has seemed a reasonable demand for them, and their exercise has not unfrequently brought both reputation and corresponding remuneration to the specialists

Possibly the time has arrived for doing much more of that nature in the library profession than has yet been customary, and that there are those among us possessing a due amount of working experience, coupled with knowledge of other and allied affairs, who might now do well to devote themselves to some special features of library enterprise as a matter of desirable business opportunity. Some from the library schools, and a few others, have gone out as "organizers," and found more or less of a field for the exercise of their limited special qualifications. That field ought to be a growing one, it would seem, if recourse to incompetent aid is carefully avoided.

In order that the library shall perform all that is expected of it, not only in being to some extent an ever-running machine, but equally in respect to its recognized higher functions, there must be the application of watchful care, constant attention, foresight, and unremitting work, the direction of all of which, and perhaps much of its actual execution, must depend upon the person placed in charge of the in-

stitution as its librarian.

It is true that having a well-trained body of assistants a library may be able to run on for a time in the prolonged absence of, or when lacking a chief; because impetus and the effects of past direction are not lost at once, provided that no demoralization has taken place. But it is not a safe policy to allow a library, or other working institution that depends largely upon the work of trained employes for its effectiveness, to go long at a time without the presence and oversight of an actual and

capable head.

Yet it does not follow that the working hours of chief librarians should be absorbed in attending to innumerable and trivial items of detail which might be delegated to and done quite as well or better by their assistants. Not only is "genius a capacity for evading hard work," as has been said, but one of the proper duties of the executive of a library is to obtain the best results possible from the respective capacities of those through whom the library does its work. All of which should imply the exercise of a kindly and broadminded disposition toward one's assistants just as truly as of respect and obedience to one's superiors, or of courtesy and suavity in dealing with customers and the public. It may be only human for one to desire to be that "King of his world," of whom Carlyle speaks; but any policy which reduces the assistants to mere machines is not a true professional one, since it tends to rob the library world of talent which is needed, and, except for such repression, might be developed and brought forward.

On the other hand, I might plead no less for corresponding loyalty and fidelity on the part of all library workers, both to their respective chiefs and the institutions that employ them. As a matter of fact, however, action of that kind is the prevailing practice in this country, with hardly an exception, and that phase needs no extended discussion. A chief is, of course, entitled to credit for acts done by subordinates at his direction, and for which he is responsible. But chiefs, in turn, can well afford to give recognition to the ability and deeds of their assistants, and will seldom, if ever, lose by doing so.

This was followed by a discussion of the topic, What may be done for libraries, first by city, second by state, and third by nation. Thomas L. Montgomery, librarian Wagner free institute of science, Philadelphia, spoke for the work by the city. He said in part:

#### What may be done for libraries by the city Thomas Lynch Montgomery

When, in the course of human events, it became necessary for our people to dissolve the political bonds which connected them with another, pretty much everything was declared a free and an inalienable right with the exception of the public library. Whether it would have escaped the attention of that founder of circulating libraries, and everything else that is useful, had it not been a time of extraordinary pressure of business, or whether he purposely neglected it in the belief that a people that had expressed such lofty sentiments as to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness might well be trusted to consider such matters in due time, it is not our purpose to discuss. He does not hesitate to give credit to the libraries in his autobiography for making the common tradesmen and farmers as intelligent as most gentlemen in other countries, and for contributing in some degree to the stand so generally made throughout the colonies in defense of their privileges. It was not until about 1850 that the desirability of a city library was suggested to the city council of Boston by Josiah Quincy, then mayor. The council cautiously resolved: That it would accept any donation from citizens or others for the purpose of commencing a public city library, and that whenever the library shall be of the value of \$30,000 it will be expedient for the city to provide a suitable place and arrangements to enable it to be used by the citizens with as great a degree of freedom as the security of the property will permit.

In July, 1852, the trustees made a report: That in their opinion the finances of the city will not permit of the erecting of a building and the purchase of an ample library. They suggest "a moderate expenditure on the part of the taken for vigor, and with those qualities city for the purchase of books and the which will procure for him respectful

compensation of a librarian." It was soon after this that Mr Bates made his famous gift of \$50,000 worth of books "on condition that the city provide an adequate building, which shall be an ornament to the city." A complete history of this institution would seem to be the best possible answer which could be made to the question before us: What can the city do for the Free library? With a magnificent collection of 700,000 books, selected under the administration of some of the best men who have dignified our profession, and housed in the most expensive building ever erected by a city for such a purpose, it would appear that the citizen of Boston might rightly exclaim, "Si monumenteum quaeris, circumspice.

The things that can be done by a city are innumerable; what it ought to do and what it will do are perhaps more easily dealt with. Thinking I might obtain some information on the subject I asked the question of the librarian of the Free library of Philadelphia. He settled himself in his chair and, assuming the tone of an oracle, said that there were three things that the city should do for its library: 1) provide an adequate appropriation for its maintenance; 2) provide an extra appropriation for emergencies; and, 3) provide a special appropriation for some particular work which the librarian might be particularly interested in at the time. I asked several other prominent librarians the same question, and their answers were to the same purpose, namely, if the city could furnish sufficient money they felt themselves fully competent to build up an ideal institution.

We all know, as a matter of fact, that the strong libraries of the country have been built up by other means than the mere appropriation of the money by city councils, and it is not unreasonable to mention as the first of these the librarian. The city should see to it that this individual is a man (or woman) strong, intellectual, and vigorous, without bumptiousness, which is often mis-

attention from even those who may be opposed to him. I have often heard addresses made before this association bewailing the fact that the city librarian had to deal with certain political elements which very much hampered him. I should regard this state of affairs as belonging to the time when the college president was necessarily a professor of moral philosophy, whose duties consisted of receiving the senior class for one hour a week to discuss Whewell's "Elements." Such an officer must be an active administrative power as well as an intellectual entity to at all meet the modern requirements, and in like manner the public librarian should deem it a privilege to meet the representatives of the city government, and to have the opportunity of impressing the needs of his institution upon them. There is no better test of the capacity of the man for the great work in which he is engaged.

Speaking practically, I would state that in the building up of the Philadelphia free library, in which I have taken an active interest, the political elements have always responded most generously to our requests, and that the library has been more inconvenienced by the writings and personal influence of certain well-to-do citizens, upon whom the word "paternalism" has acted as a nightmare, than by any difficulty with the

city government. While the city should provide means and a proper official to conduct the institution, it should take much more care in the selection of the board of trustees than is usually the case. They should be representative men, who not only should be able to assist the librarian in the formation of an educational institution, but also be able to devote a considerable amount of time to matters relating to its policy. If the librarian is not a systematic business man, one of the board, or a committee, should be delegated to attend to the financial affairs, as it is absolutely necessary that the accounts should be at all times in as good condition as in the most punctilious business house.

I would also suggest that a certain modesty be observed in the carrying out of such work by a municipality. It is hard to think of anything that could be said for this proposition when the magnificent buildings of Boston, Chicago, and Pittsburg are taken into consideration; but I would respectfully submit that the feeling of unrest among the great army of industrial workers throughout the civilized world is growing. With the tremendous progress in science and industry these people are claiming that they can see no gain in the position of the common people. This discontent has manifested itself lately in the opposition of the labor organizations of the certain towns to the munificent proposition made by one of the most conscientious men who has ever been numbered among the multimillionaires of the world. While it is not always wise to consider too seriously the socialistic murmurings of a few negative people, I submit that it is our duty to consider the effect produced upon the poorest and most scantily clad patron of our libraries.

It is necessary that the library should be housed in a fireproof building as soon as possible, and the owners of valuable books will always choose such an institution for such gifts as they may make. I believe that the Boston library has received donations equal to half the cost of the building since it has been housed in Copley sq.

Finally, the city should insist that the library be an educational institution, and not receive its appropriation for recreation mainly. The extraordinary demand for light fiction in public libraries has led to a very unsatisfactory condition of affairs, and it is not uncommon to find 300 copies of a new novel necessary to at all meet the demand. There is every indication that the public library will be furnished with a happy release from this call upon their resources by the institution of the Book lover's library, which has now extended its branches to all the important cities. If this system can be extended on good business principles, the happiness of public libraries would be com- like other public works of necessity and plete notwithstanding the slight falling off in circulation that might follow.

The motto of every such institution should be: Libri libere liberis, which, being freely translated means, A free people should have open shelves if possible.

Dr E. A Birge, acting president University of Wisconsin, spoke for the work by the state. Dr Birge spoke in substance as follows:

#### What the state can do for libraries

#### E. A. Birge, president Board of directors, Madison Free library

The relation of the state to libraries view. The first and oldest library function of the state has been the maintefor the convenience of the legislature, and in many states enlarged into a general library. With this function has also gone the indirect support of libraries for historical and scientific societies incorporated by the state, and in some degree representing it. Much work by the state in these directions, but as this function is the oldest and passed without further discussion.

are supporting free libraries without touch with the world. aid from the state. The state aids these libraries by enacting proper laws for this work of library extension have usutheir organization. In general the statutes should be such as will give the mission. The first commission was eslocal library the best opportunity for tablished by Massachusetts in 1890. By organization, and will leave it when organized the largest amount of freedom lished such commissions, more than in doing its work. The earlier library half of them in the two years precedlaws of the state have very generally ing that date. There are no statistics contained the provision, that in order regarding the establishment of such to establish a library in a community commissions in 1901. The work of these the proposition must be accepted by a commissions may be either advisory or majority of the voters at an election. missionary, aiding in the establishment This provision has been found disad- of libraries in the smaller communities, vantageous in Wisconsin, and was elim- which are able to establish and maintain inated from our library law in 1897. them under the guidance and advice Experience has shown that it is better of a commission, and directly furnishto leave the establishment of a library—ing library facilities to the smallest and

utility-to the common council, or other trustees of the people, in the larger towns and cities, rather than to commit the proposition to the chance

of a general election.

The third function of the state with reference to libraries is that which may be called "library extension." the state acts directly to aid in the establishment of libraries and the extension of library work in the communities which would otherwise lack libraries. The necessity for this work has become apparent to the more progressive states of the Union within recent years. The justification of this work lies in two may be considered from three points of main reasons: 1) Libraries continue for the older youth of the community and for adults the education which the state nance of a state library, usually begun requires for children. It is neither fair nor right for the state to maintain a system of education which develops a love of knowledge and of reading, and then leave the community without the means for continuing in later youth the development begun in childhood. 2) It is known that the intellectual isolamight be said on possible extension of tion of the rural communities is one of the main reasons for the much lamented drift from the country into the cities, best understood, it may be named and and it has been found that the establishment of libraries affords one of the Second, the state holds a relation to most important means of bringing these the local libraries in communities which small communities into intellectual

> The states which have undertaken ally done so by means of a library comthe end of 1900, 17 states had estab-

weakest communities. In certain states direct state aid is given to the smaller libraries, notably in Massachusetts, where each town library established under the rules of the commission receives books to the amount of \$100. In some states aid is given in the purchase of books. The direct furnishing of libraries is done mainly by means of traveling libraries. So far as I can learn, these are now distributed by six states. This work is one of the greatest importance, and yet I believe it is one which will ultimately pass into the hands of the counties, or smaller governmental bodies than the state.

Lastly, the commissions are aiding in the library work by the establishment of library schools. In Wisconsin a summer school for library training has been held for the past seven years, and represents a class of work which it seems important that each state should undertake, namely, the training of librarians for the smaller libraries, in which the salaries paid are necessarily so small that the librarians cannot afford the expense of a complete course in library training. Experience has shown that in a two months' summer session instruction can be given of the greatest value to those who are to have charge of this class of libraries.

In this department of library extension, which the states have been entering upon during the past decade, lies the most important work which the state can undertake for libraries. The work of the library commission means a systematic employment of the library as an educational and social factor in the progress of the people. This is the true mission of the library, and the most important function of the state lies in effectively aiding it to perform this work.

Herbert Putnam, Librarian of congress, spoke for the work by the Nation. Mr Putnam emphasized the following points:

What may be done for libraries by the Nation Herbert Putnam, Librarian of congress

may the Nation do for libraries? might be contained in a statement of what the government actually does, or might go further to suggest plans for the future. To recite what has been done would be to utter truths which are familiar, while to propose projects may involve awkward consequences. With due regard for caution I may make the following suggestions:

The federal government has rendered large services to public libraries generally. It exempts from tariff duty books imported for their use. It maintains at Washington, with a generosity not paralleled by any other government, bureaus for scientific research; it compiles, publishes, and freely distributes the result of this research. It is the greatest publisher in the world, and the largest manufacturer of books. Annually it sends to the libraries of the United States over 300,000v. It comprises their activity among the subjects for whose investigation the Bureau of education has been established. Its Bureau of documents is seeking to index the government publications, and thus render their resources available to facilitate the distribution of documents, and to offer to libraries a clearing-house tor the exchange of duplicate documents.

These are familiar services which are none the less important. What has the government done as the owner of libraries? for it must be remembered that the government supports not one, but several official libraries in the city of Washington. One of them, that of the surgeon-general's office—the most comprehensive in the world within its special field-already sends its books to members of the medical profession throughout the United States, while its well-known printed catalog has conferred a general benefit not equaled by any bibliographic work in any other department of literature. But it is doubtless especially of the Library of congress that I am expected to speak. Established as a legislative library, and still called the Library of congress, it The answer to the question, What has grown far beyond its original function, for its building and equipment seem to mean, that the library should serve, not congress alone, nor the residents of Washington alone, but, as far as possible, the whole nation. The British museum located at the metropolis of the nation whose area is but 100,000 square miles, serves the purpose of a national library by the accumulation and preservation of material and the aid of research by accredited persons upon its own premises. Whether the Library of congress, located in a comparatively small city, in a country whose area is over 3,000,000 square miles, can by analogous service adequately fulfill the function of a national library, is at least open to question.

What may the Library of congress do for the libraries of the United States, provided always that adequate resources shall be placed at its disposal?

The first suggestion is in the line of bibliography. The collections of the library should afford opportunity for such work not equaled elsewhere. The imagination might carry us readily a step further, and conceive of the library as a center for bibliographic information-a place where there should be record, not only of its own books, but of every book in the United States available for investigators. Again, it is conceivable that there should be at Washington a bureau which might serve as a clearing-house for miscellaneous duplicates, as the office of the superintendent of documents does for duplicates in his field. The Library of congress is printing its catalog cards and is sending to two libraries at least copies of these cards. These libraries deem that it would be useful to them to have a statement of the contents of the Library of congress, and there are doubtless other libraries to whom such a statement would be of value. But there may be something further. The distribution of cards, the publication of bibliographies, expert service in answer to inquiries, all have their uses. But how about the books themselves? Must the use of this great collection be limited to Washington? Shall we refuse to send

to another library, in the aid of the highest research, a book which can be spared from Washington and is not a book within the proper duty of the local library to supply? If there is any citizen of the United States who thinks that a loan under such conditions would be a misuse of the resources of the National library he had better speak quickly, or he may be too late.

I have outlined services toward which we seem to be drifting, and some of which we may not be able to avoid, even if we would. Some of the conditions for the performance of this service are already present. There is the building, the organization, the appropriations for the purchase of books, and for printing and binding. The immediate work which lies before us is vast. The arrears are serious. We must first put our own house in order. But

the question is not of what can be done immediately, but what may be done in due course, eventually.

We shall arrive the sooner in proportion as those who have in charge the municipal and collegiate libraries of the United States will urge upon congress the advantage, to the interests they represent, of undertakings such as I have described. If the Library of congress is to perform services of general concern to the libraries of the country, it must be largely through the appeal of these libraries to congress.

#### Second session

Friday morning the second general session was held, which was entirely a business meeting. First in order was the report of the secretary, F. W. Faxon:

#### Report of secretary, 1900-1901

During the 13 months since the association met at Montreal, the number of new members added has been 167.\* Including with the new those who have rejoined (for they are practically new members), we have over 225, the largest year's increase in the history of the A. L. A. The system of giving to each person who joins an accession number,

<sup>\*</sup>Total new members for year, including those joining at Waukesha, about 267.

and after a lapse of membership for one compilation (800 copies, pages same or more years reverting to the old number when he again joins, is not, to my mind quite fair to the regular continued membership. One of the charter members, to take an extreme case, may, after paying dues for 1876 only, come in again this year by paying for 1901, and yet appear on a par with the 1876 members who have faithfully kept up their membership for 25 years. These rejoining members should be included with the total of new names added. There is a chance here for our statistician to devise a better system of accession. In March, 1901, the active membership reached the 1000 mark, an achievement written during the year, 956; number which may well be recorded at the opening of a new century.

In January 4000 copies of preliminary announcement were mailed to members, and others supposed to be interested. The secretary compiled, for this purpose, a card catalog of names, including in it members of all the state asso-

ciations and local clubs.

In May a new Handbook (68 pages and cover), 31/4 x = 3/4 in., practically following the size of last issue, was sent out, giving list of members, officers, and committees, statistical tables, lists of state and local library associations and state library commissions, necrology for the year, and other information of value to members, and of use in extending the work of the A. L. A.

An edition of 4500 was printed at an expense of \$160.60, and about half were mailed, in connection with circular no. 2 regarding the Waukesha meeting. The remainder should suffice for the coming year, with a small supplement to include the new members and the by-laws (passed at Waukesha, thus com-

pleting the new constitution).

Early in June the final announcement was sent out, with private postcard inclosed, requesting advance registration. This was entirely successful, 476 persons registering for attendance up to June 28. A printed list of these, for distribution at the early sessions of the meeting, will, it is confidently expected, more than justify the expense of its

size as Handbook, \$32.75).

There were printed 2000 copies of program (16 pages, Handbook size), and a copy mailed to each person who registered for attendance at the meeting, and to all members of the associa-

The secretary's expenses for the year, exclusive of Handbook, will be about \$400, the chief items being postage and printing This seems justified, as it has been the means of increasing the income of the A. L. A. by more than the amount expended.

Number of letters and postcards

received, about 1000.

Gifts to the A L. A. during the year have been as follows: Current issues of the New York Public library bulletin and the Library journal, from the publishers; Reports of the Bristol meeting of the L. A. U. K., from the honorable secretary; Report of the trustees of the Public library of Victoria, Australia, 1900; Catalog of books on art, from the Newcastle-upon-Tyne library; Statistics of labor, Connecticut report, 1901; World almanac, 1901; Poor boys' chances, by John Habberton, from the author; Washington, or the Revolution, a drama, by Ethan Allen, from Wm. O. McDowell: Annual reports of several American libraries, including Philadelphia free, Haverhill public, Somerville public, Scranton public, and Bowdoin college libraries.

The treasurer, Gardner M. Jones, presented his report for the year 1900:

#### The treasurer's report, 1900

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1900		\$54.75
Receipts, annual fees	\$1912.00	
Life memberships	50.00	
Interest	11.64	
Donations	1.00	1974.64
		\$2020.30

Payments, proceedings, including delivery: Balance Atlanta proceedings..... \$209,69 881.34 \$1091.03 Montreal proceedings...

Stenographer Secretary and confer-	\$ 104.44
ence expenses	378.42
Treasurer's expenses Trustees of endowment	97.90
Trustees of endowment	
fund, life memberships	50 00
	\$1721.79
Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1900,	307.60
	\$2029.39
	N-0-0-0-0

From Jan. 1 to July 1, 1901, the receipts have been \$1650.00, and the payments \$781.32, the balance on hand July 1 being \$1176.28. The membership, hence the income, of the association is increasing from year to year, but it should be borne in mind that increased membership means increased expenses. The secretary and treasurer are obliged to ask for more money for postage, stationery, printing, etc., and it is only by the most rigid condensation that the recorder is able to keep our conference proceedings within our means.

The number of members in good standing on Dec. 31, 1900 (dues paid

for 1900) was 874.

Charles C. Soule, treasurer of the Endowment fund, made the following report:

Report of the treasurer of the endowment fund

Report of the receipts and expenditures from June 6, 1900, to July 1, 1901, together with a schedule of assets and an estimate of income for the ensuing year.

There are no donations to report. The Permanent fund has been increased by the fees for three life memberships,

\$75 in all.

Of the \$2102.18 now on deposit, subject to check, \$665.04 is on interest account, available for expenditure as the council may direct. In addition to this, \$301.03 income may be expected during the year 1901-02; \$1437.14 is on principal account, to be invested as opportunity offers.

Received: CASH ACCOUNT	
1900, June 6, Balance on hand 1901, March 8, Repayment of mort-	\$ 619.27
gage loan	1000.00
life memberships	75.00
1900-1901, Receipt of interest	
	\$2152.98

Paid out:	
1901, Jan. 14, Interest added to deposit in Brookline Sav-	
ings bank	\$ 40.80
1901, April 18, Rent of safe-	
box for securities	10.00 50.80
1901, July 1, Balance on de- posit with International Trust Co., Boston	\$2102.18
Assets:	
Loan on mortgage at 7%, due	
Oct. 1, 1902	\$700.00
Loan on mortgage at 5%, due	
Jan. 24, 1902	3000,00
Deposit with Brookline (Mass.) savings bank (4%	
interest)	1050.80
Deposit with International Trust Co., Boston (2% inter-	,
est)	
	\$6852.08

Of this amount, \$6187.94 is principal to be left intact; \$665.04 is interest available for use. Liabilities, none.

Annual expense, \$10 for safe deposit box. Available for appropriation by the Council,

Cash on hand July 1, 1901 (in-	
terest account)	\$665.04
Interest, 1901-1902	241.03
Probable additional interest	\$906.07 60.00
	\$066.07

In presenting his report, Mr Soule called attention to the fact that the Endowment fund was small in proportion to the needs of the association, and was growing very slowly. He stated that a fund of, say \$100,000, would provide income sufficient to pay the salary and expenses of a permanent secretary to the association, and begged members, if asked how money could be given or bequeathed for the best interest of the library cause, to bear in mind the A. L. A. Endowment fund.

The committee on coöperation, W. L. R. Gifford, chairman, made the following report:

#### Report of the co-operation committee

The exhaustive report on cooperative cataloging, rendered by the cooperation committee of last year, has disposed for the present, so far as this committee is concerned, of the most important subject which has of late years been brought to its attention.

Dr Richardson reports that the in-

dex to theological periodicals is progressing rapidly, and will probably be published before the next conference of the A. L. A. The index will cover the years 1891-1900, and will include all the standard theological periodicals, of Poole rank and upwards, in all languages of which there are representatives in American libraries, together with many references to theological articles in general periodicals, in all not less than 25,000 references. It will be an alphabetical subject index, like Poole, but will differ from Poole in giving regular author-title entry, and will be more bibliographical in character through the select references to general periodicals. A feature of the index will be a very brief definition of each subject. Dr Richardson has at present seven clerks engaged in the work and is pushing it as fast as possible.

The Dictionary of historical fiction, n preparation by the Free library of Philadelphia, is making satisfactory progress and will probably be issued within the coming year. Since the announcement was made at the Atlantic conference that this dictionary was in preparation, there have been many inquiries concerning it, and the prospect of its publication will be welcome.

The committee has received no new information during the past year in regard to plans for bibliographical work, and it would emphasize the recommendations of previous years that all such plans be reported promptly to the committee that they may be published in its annual report.

# Synopsis of report of A. L. A. committee on foreign documents

In the absence of the chairman Mr Andrews reported that it was expected that the List of French government serials would soon make its appearance, and he called attention to two features:

That certain documents had been purposely omitted from the list.

2 That the list made mention of certain libraries in whichthe documents enumerated could be consulted.

He expressed the obligations under which Adelaide K. Hasse had placed the committee by her continued assistance; and stated that a considerable amount of material for a German list had been collected.

#### Report of committee on title-pages and indexes of periodical volumes

W. I. Fletcher

Briefly, the committee's report was as follows: Recommended, that a memorial be sent to the publishers of periodicals by this association, setting forth: 1) That title-pages and tables of contents should always accompany the last number of a volume, and not the first number of the following volume. They should be stitched in and not sent loose. 2) They should be furnished with every copy of the issue of a completing number. The reason for this is the importance of having all numbers that may be bought in the market as second-hand, or otherwise, capable of being made into complete volumes. 3) Title-pages and tables of contents should be printed on a two, four, or eight leaved section, separate from other printed matter, either advertising or reading, in order to avoid the vicious result of important leaves, like the titlepage, being pasted in when the volume. is bound.

Quite a discussion followed Mr Fletcher's report as to whether the index should be placed at the beginning or end of the volume, with a difference of opinion as to the place. Mr Faxon of the Boston Book Co. told of some of the ludicrous entries made by indexers who did not understand the principles of the work.

In the absence of Dr J. S. Billings, the secretary read the report of the committee on International catalog of scientific literature, as follows:

#### Report of committee on international catalog of scientific literature

Your committee begs to report that the final conference of delegates of the various governments, for the purpose of considering an International catalog of scientific literature, was held in London on June 12 and 13, 1900, and, as intimated in the report of your committee last year, owing to the failure of congress to make it possible for delegates with power to attend, no representatives of the United States were present. Herbert Putnam, Librarian of congress, who was visiting England at the time, was informally in conference with various members of the Royal society and rendered effective service in enabling them to reach a conclusion.

The conference decided to undertake the issuing of the catalog provided 300 complete subscriptions were received by October 1, the quota of the United States in this being 45. During the summer the Smithsonian institute issued a circular to American libraries and universities, and learned societies and scientific men, announcing the fact, with the very gratifying result of the subscription to the equivalent of over vears.

A meeting of the International council to finally arrange for the beginning of the work was held in London on Dec. 12 and 13, 1900, at which the necessary financial arrangements were agreed to, the Royal society advancing certain sums and agreeing to act as publisher, and being authorized to enter into contracts, etc. Dr H. Foster Morley was elected director, and offices were secured at 34 and 35 Southampton st., Strand, London, W. C.

The initial work has begun. The preparation of a list of periodicals to be indexed, and a more careful revision of the schedules, was the first work to be done. Thus far the periodical lists for Germany, Great Britain, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Holland, Japan, Portugal, Canada, India, and Ceylon have been printed. That for the United States is expected to be ready for transmission to London about August 1.

In the absence of any provision, the Smithsonian institute is carrying on the work for the United States, although with very inadequate force. It would be very desirable if legislation could be had to enable the Smithsonian institute to prosecute this work more vigorously. and without drawing upon its own funds.

Signed: J. S. BILLINGS, Chairman, CYRUS ADLER, Secretary.

Dr Hosmer was then called to the platform by Pres. Carr, and occupied a few minutes in a beautiful tribute to the life and work of Dr John Fiske, notice of whose death had just been Dr Hosmer and Dr Fiske received. had been close friends for 35 years, and the fitting tribute which was paid to the memory of the great man touched the audience. A committee, consisting of Dr Hosmer, George Iles, and R. G. Thwaites, was requested to draw up a memorial expressing the sentiments of the A. L. A.

Dr Hosmer called attention to the fact that Dr Fiske had been at one time a librarian, though never a member of the A. L. A. He may be classed among the great writers of his day, and his 70 complete sets for a period of five style is unsurpassed for lucidity and beauty.

Friday afternoon was occupied by the sessions of the National association of State librarians and by the Children's librarians' section.

The proceedings of the National association of State librarians will be issued shortly as a supplement to Pub-LIC LIBRARIES.

#### First session, Children's librarians' section

In the Children's librarians' section Lutie E. Stearns read a greeting from Miss Moore, chairman of the section, who regretted her inability to be present, and expressed hearty wishes as to the success of the meeting. The secretary, Miss Dousman, then announced that the club of children's librarians, which had been organized at Montreal, would no longer be continued, but the members would direct their efforts toward the work of the section for children's librarians.

The first paper of the section, by Miss Hewins of Hartford, Conn., was read in her absence by Miss Haines. Miss Hewins reviewed at length a number of books for children which have

been included in reputable lists, and yet which seemed to her to be entirely unworthy of such a selection. She made the following points with regard to the selection of children's books:

Book reviews, book lists, and articles on children's reading-Are they of practical value to the children's librarian?

Caroline M. Hewins, librarian Hartford public library Hartford Conn

A children's librarian has three sources of reliance in the choice or purchase of books. They are, 1) book reviews in current or earlier periodicals; 2) lists, graded or ungraded, for libraries; 3) articles on children's reading in

books or periodicals.

The children's librarian, or any librarian who orders children's books from reviews, often finds the books entirely different from what the description has led her to suppose. Even if there is no positive untruth in a notice, it is often misleading from the lack of a standard of comparison with the best books for children . . . Reviews in both religious and secular papers are often perfunctory and meaningless. One reason of this is that many books are published for the Christmas trade, between September 15 and December 15, when they come into newspaper offices with a rush, until they are piled in stacks on the desk of the hapless reviewer and hastily noticed, sometimes by title only . . . Even in newspapers fortunate enough to command the services of specialists for history and science, and an additional critic for novels, the children's books are hastily noticed, sometimes by the youngest reporter in his spare minutes. In smaller offices the task of reviewing all books falls to the hard-worked editor, who is, like Jacob Riis, also his own reporter, publisher, and advertising agent, but whose sense of literary values is often not in proportion to his knowledge of state politics or local reforms.

It is unfortunate that in the newspapers of as high a class as the Outlook, Independent, and Dial, the notices of

written and show the lack of a standard of comparison.

Some tests of a library or school list are: Are the books in it chosen for their permanent value? Has the maker of the list read them? Will it tell an overworked teacher or librarian what the best modern straightforward stories in simple English are, the best life of Lafayette without any long words like "evacuation," or the best account of a salamander in language that a child of 10 can understand? A list for teachers is not a help in choosing books for children, unless from the point of view of child-study, which has another place than on the shelves of a children's room.

A dreamy boy like "the child in the library" of a recent Atlantic monthly, and the keen little newsboy who snatches a half-hour after school is over and he has sold his papers to spell out a simple life of Columbus, or the Story of the chosen people, have little in common, and need different books, but they both need the very best of their

kind.

A book-reviewer or maker of booklists for children should have an intimate knowledge of the best books which have been written for them, and the unconscious training which this knowledge gives in a critical sense of style and in good taste. He (or she) should have also the intimate knowledge of all sorts and conditions of children, and their limitations, that a teacher or a settlement worker or a wise mother has.

The best reviews of children's books ever written in this country were the work of a woman and a mother-Lucy McKim Garrison, who, in the earlier volumes of the Nation, put into her work broadmindedness, high ideals, and an understanding of children. It is such work as this that should be a model for the reviewers, and a guide to the librarians of today; and one of the most important duties of the children's section is to insist upon higher standards, both in reviewers and, through children's books are often carelessly them, in the writers of children's books,

and upon trained critical knowledge in the makers of children's lists.

perience that will later make it possible for the utterances of children's libra-

Miss Haines, in discussing the paper, emphasized Miss Hewins' criticisms and deductions. She said further:

There is not vet among children's librarians a sufficient "body of doctrine"-critical judgment, knowledge of books—to produce satisfactory library lists. Such lists are too often made up from hearsay, or through selection from other lists, which is almost always unsatisfactory. The most prevalent and serious defect in these annotated library lists is the use of too many words which mean nothing. In this work especially "the adjective is the enemy of the substantive." Even the Carnegie list, excellent as a whole and probably the best of the kind yet published, is crude in some respects, and would stand pruning. There is too frequent use of such phrases as, a wholesome book, a cheery tale, a children's classic, and there is too great a preponderance of American books, of commonplace "series" of books in what may be called the public school rut. Few annotations convey an idea of subject, quality, or treatment. The most important thing is to know the books themselves. This could not be possible for the librarian of a general collection; but it is possible, and ought to be indispensable, for the librarian of a special class of literature. A children's librarian can make herself familiar with the literature suitable for children, and should do so. Personal familiarity is better than all "evaluations" by other people. There should be a constant interchange of criticism and experience among those working in this field-it is as yet small enough to permit this This should be largely personal and individual-not brought out as a public expression—until there is developed a better basis for critical and literary discernment in this subject than now exists. The most important thing to do is not to rush hastily into print, to "educate ourselves in public,"

perience that will later make it possible for the utterances of children's librarians to carry weight in their own field of literature.

This discussion was followed by a discussion of Books for children in three parts: Miss Taylor, of Pratt institute, discussed Books in fiction; Miss Sargent, of Medford, Mass., discussed Fairy tales, and Ella A. Holmes, Children's museum Brooklyn institute of art and science, discussed the subject, Science for the children. The ground covered by these papers further emphasized the statement which had been made in the reading of the former papers.

The discussion was opened by F. M. Crunden, who thought it unwise to make any distinction between books for girls and books for boys. He thought children should be led to take a greater interest in classic and standard literature to check the craving for the new books, which is an evil among American readers.

The section then adjourned to meet Saturday afternoon.

#### Friday evening, July 5

Friday evening was given up to the reunion of the library schools alumni. Short business meetings were held in the various rooms.

#### Third session, Saturday morning

The meeting was opened by report of the committee on public documents, read by Mr Henry. The committee had nothing to report on United States public documents. The Indiana State library issued a subject catalog of United States public documents in the Indiana State library, and also an index to the Documentary journal of Indiana, from the beginning of the publication in 1835 to 1899.

is developed a better basis for critical and literary discernment in this subject than now exists. The most important record of Connecticut state laws, from thing to do is not to rush hastily into print, to "educate ourselves in public," the earliest times to 1836. A committee of the American Historical assobut to set to work to know our books, and through such knowledge to establish a fund of critical judgment and executive in lish a fund of critical judgment and executive in the conditions of the public archives in lish a fund of critical judgment and executive in 1900 an elaborate bibliographical record of Connecticut issued in 1900 an elaborate bibliographical record of Connecticut issued in 1900 an elaborate bibliographical record of Connecticut state laws, from the earliest times to 1836. A committee of the American Historical association has begun the investigation of and through such knowledge to establish a fund of critical judgment and executive in 1900 an elaborate bibliographical record of Connecticut state laws, from the earliest times to 1836. A committee of the American Historical association has begun the investigation of and through such knowledge to establish a fund of critical judgment and executive in 1900 and elaborate bibliographical record of Connecticut state laws, from the earliest times to 1836. A committee of the American Historical association has begun the investigation of and through such knowledge to establish the investigation of the conditions of the properties.

tion in each state of its own archives, including its printed documents as well as manuscript records.

J. C. Ferrell, superintendent of documents, followeds giving an outline of the work under consideration at that

department at Washington.

J. C. Dana next presented the report the committee on cooperation with the National educational association, in which he called attention to the fact that the educational journals were slow to publish material sent to them for the purpose of creating an interest in the library side of the school work. He called attention to the fact that teachers were slow in taking advantage of that which the library offers, and he called upon the librarians to take an interest in those who are to become teach-This can be done by stimulating an interest in the normal schools of the country.

Mr Dewey followed, emphasizing what Mr Dana had said, but he thought the seeming indifference was due to the teachers being already overworked.

The subject was further discussed by Mr Crunden and Dr Canfield, and the discussion was closed by Mr Dana, who said he did not want it understood that he was finding fault with the teachers, but calling attention to the fact that the librarians were not interesting the teachers to the extent of the possibilities

F. M. Crunden was appointed representative of the A. L. A. to carry a greeting to the meeting of the N. E. A.

at Detroit.

Mr Dana, for the committee on library training, announced that the committee as a whole had not been able to visit and report on the schools during the He read a letter from Dr Richardson, one of the members of the committee, who expressed his satisfaction and pleasure derived from visiting the library schools at Albany, Philadelphia, and Brooklyn.

Mr Beer gave a brief talk on Collection and cataloging of early newspa-

systematic and more complete collection of information on the locality of files of newspapers up to 18co was under way, and would be published in the Archives of the state of New Jer-

Dr G. E. Wire then read a paper in

part as follows:

Principles of book and picture selection Dr G. E. Wire, Worcester county law library

I Books and pictures should be suited to the constituency-The needs of the constituency should be carefully studied and the most pressing should be attended to at first. Avoid imitation and duplication, especially the latter. Too much reliance should not be placed on what some larger library has or on what the neighboring library has.

In the case of the small 5000v. library, with little money to spend and the whole realm of knowledge to cover, great prudence in buying is necessary. Traveling libraries should be able to help out in line of popular books and study books only wanted for a short time, and also in line of expensive reference books. I believe in reciprocity, but few foreign books should be bought even in literature. Even English books as a general thing, outside of a few in literature and history, should be tabooed. They do not buy ours, why should we buy theirs?

2 As to matter of outside experts - In the case of the arts and sciences it is quite the fashion to refer the book list to the nearest high school or college professor, with the idea that in his line he knows all there is to be known on these subjects. Most of these so-called experts are not even competent to select works for their own department let alone the public library. Books for the laboratory and technical school are one thing, for the small public library are quite another thing. In many libraries, in consequence, are to be found high priced technical works of momentary interest fit only for classroom or laboratory work, too deep for the public library and soon out of date.

3 Choice by committee-One of the latpers. Mr Beer announced that the est fads is selection by voting or choice

shirking responsibility. This usually really good books or pictures being left out or else a preponderance of votes go for a few favorites. Sufficiently bad examples are in the yearly lists of books sent out from New York State library. The list of 100 pictures and statues sent out by regents of the University of State of New York is worse still, if possible. These are some of the worthy omissions: Sistine Madonna, Madonna of the chair, Christ in the temple, Queen Louise, Horse fair, 1807. The worst of this is that these lists are accepted as dicta and as coming from authorities who cannot be meeting adjourned. questioned.

4 Choice by librarian expert-The librarian is the only expert who should be consulted or tolerated. He is the only living representative of the encyclopedist of a hundred years ago. His taste is sure to be more catholic, wholly unbiased, and he makes a better rounded and more even selection on the whole. It is his business to know the books best suited to his constituency, and in the small library he has even a better chance than in the large library to do this work. Any failure to be posted on subject, books, or prices, is unwar-

rantable. 5 Matter of cost-I hold it to be little short of criminal to recommend high priced books for libraries of limited means. By high priced books I mean those costing over \$5 a volume. This, of course, does not apply to reference books. Take, for example, De Buy's Mycetezoa. It stands on the shelves of dozens of libraries, leaves uncut, totally unused; each copy means at least \$4 wasted money. There are scores of books now published, and more coming out every day, on various questions of philosophy, sociology, science, arts, and particularly literature and history, priced from \$1 to \$2.50, which are far superior for practical purposes to the heavyweight monographs at \$5 a volume and upward. In a small library you must get the largest num-

by committee. Either is a lazy way of ber of good books possible for the money. Two or three good, readable results in a mediocre selection, all the books are far better than one dry treatise which does not circulate.

Mr Dewey, in speaking of the New York list of pictures, said that there was no effort whatever to select the 100 best pictures. The list was prepared by 50 people whose judgment was reliable, and who selected out of several hundred pictures submitted the 100 open to no objection of any kind, and the bulletin is simply a list of pictures that have been passed by representatives of various religious and ethical interests.

At the close of the discussion the

#### Saturday afternoon, July 6

Saturday afternoon three sections held simultaneous meetings: the Trustees, College and reference, and Children's librarians sections.

The Trustees' section was presided over by Dr J. H. Leipziger of New York city. In his opening address Dr Leipziger outlined the subjects which should come up for discussion in the Trustees' section, such as: term of office of trustees; the question of trustees for the library alone rather than government by educational boards; the matter of policy of the library-how far it is the work of the trustees and how much of it belongs to the librarian, etc. He emphasized the fact that there should be no division between the librarian and the trustees, but that both should work in harmony to obtain the same end, namely, that the public may be well served by the library. Fitness for the position of library trustee should receive more attention in the appointment, as in the case of the librarian, and with both there should be a real love for the work.

Mr Montgomery, trustee of Philadelphia, in discussing the paper laid particular stress on the fact that a competent librarian should be appointed, with full responsibility for the success of the institution, and the trustees should only be interested in the results.

Many trustees have the feeling that when a librarian asks for more help or better facilities for the library work that they are making a personal request. Trustees should be reasonable in giving the library what is necessary to make the work successful. He pointed out the freedom given to the librarian of prime causes of the great success attending the work in that city.

Mr Soule made the point that trustees should not be elected for life. After a long period of office a trustee often feels as if the library were a part of his own property, and is apt to be narrow in his views of its prospects. New blood occasionally is good for the

health of the institution.

The question of the management of libraries by boards of education brought on quite an animated discussion. It was the general opinion that members of the board of education should not be trustees of libraries ex officio, but, at the same time, there is no objection to electing them as individuals.

At the close of the discussion W. R. Eastman read a paper on Library buildings, in which he spoke as follows:

#### Library buildings M. R. Eastman, Albany, N.Y.

A building is not the first requisite, but when obtained it doubles the value of a public library, which can then not only do better service, but command more general respect and interest. The vital point in successful building is to grasp the various departments in their true relations. Each case demands preliminary inquiry, as to-

Books-How many in book-room and in each department now, and in the next 20 years? Will public access be

allowed? Is a stack needed?

Rules for calculation. Each running foot of shelf space may have 80 books on eight shelves; or in a close stack, 25 books approximately for each square foot of floor. For practical convenience shelf capacity should be for twice the actual number of books, and all lines of enlargement should be planned in advance.

2 All needed departments and special rooms should be stated in detail with size in square feet.

3 The character of the constituency

should be considered.

4 Resources in money, location, surthe Philadelphia library as one of the roundings, and equipment for light, heat, and air.

5 Number of library staff and work-

rooms.

The above points should be thoroughly studied and a sketch drawn to show, in a general way, what is wanted. An architect reliable and experienced in this line of work should be chosen, and one cordially willing to consult and alter till the right plan is found. Competition is not fruitful of the best results, as the best architects do not care to compete. It is most desirable to refer plans to a librarian of experience, or to the State library commission, who are supposed to have extended acquaintance with existing libraries and want the best.

The paper sketched the development of the library building from its simplest form: 1) A square room; 2) an oblong room with entrance at the center, and each wing a department; 3) an extension to the rear, giving three departments on the trefoil or butterfly plan, with the book-room at the back overlapping both the others; 4) three separate rooms on the same lines, but on larger scale than the last, perhaps with glass partitions to add to the impression of extent and allow supervi-

sion.

This plan may be substantially followed in all buildings of moderate size but limited space; specially narrow lots will modify the proportions or compel the sacrifice or shifting of one wing. Basements are valuable for workrooms and overflow of books, and second and third stories may be added. The lines of future extension of the walls should be determined from the first.

5) In a larger building an open court will be formed by extending two rooms to the rear and adding another across the back. Sometimes the central court is covered with a skylight and becomes a stairway court, with surrounding galleries. Sometimes it is a reading-room with a dome and high clere story windows. With three extensions to the rear, two courts are left, or with a further extension four courts, as in the Library of congress.

Convenience in placing departments with a view to access and administration at least cost of time, strength, and money, is of vital importance. Extravagance is not so often found in lavish ornament as in a faulty arrangement, which requires three persons to do the

work of one or two.

Light—Natural light from frequent windows, extending well up, and square at the top, is to be desired. If windows begin eight feet from the floor unbroken book cases may line the walls; but to put any such windows on the street front has an unpleasant, prison-like effect. They are excellent at the sides of the book-room. In cities special means to secure light must be contrived.

Shelving—To avoid serious mistake, the shelf plan should be fixed before that of the building. A compromise between stack and wall shelves is necessary. A large library will need both. A small library will begin with open spaces and fill them gradually as the library grows, planning the process for 20 years.

For ordinary books shelf space 8x10 inches is sufficient. Eight shelves may be placed within a height of eight feet over all. The length of shelf may be 30 to 36 inches. More than this is apt to sag. Some shelves for oversized books are needed, and the proportion will vary with the character of the

library.

Miscellaneous notes—Floors of wood, covered with corticene, are quieter than tile, marble, or concrete.

No wainscots or baseboards are needed on the walls of a reading-room. Cases of books are the best ornament

Small tables for four are liked best.

Do not make them too high; 30 inches are enough. Light, bent wood chairs are easy to handle.

Windows should not swing, but slide up and down.

Keep cost well within estimated limit, for debt must not be thought of.

Be sure the building is convenient for administration and work, a point at which many a costly building has conspicuously failed.

Make the library worthy its purpose. Mr Mauran, of the firm of Mauran, Russell & Garden, St Louis, Mo., read a paper on the

#### Relation of the architect to the librarian

After calling attention to the change of old ideas of librarianship to the present notion of combining executive ability with a highly specialized professional facility, he called attention to the warning of Lord Bacon against the sacrifice of utility to mere artistic composition, pointing out that in various parts of the world there are the many followers of the leading schools in architecture endeavoring to develop the taste and talent of architects. While many students return from foreign schools with the idea that by copying the plans of beautiful architecture in foreign cities, regardless of conditions in this country, they are doing good work, the larger number of students leave behind the forms and symbols of their training, and adopt the logical method of sequential study which alone insures a creditable solution of architectural problems. He further said to library boards about to build, first appoint your librarian, and, second, in consultation with him, appoint your architect.

The American institute of architects has advised against competitions, which they believe result in more evil than good. Aside from needless expense and loss of time to both library boards and architects by the holding of competitions, a greater evil lies in the well-proved fact, that in their desire to win approval for their design, most

librarian's predilections, and follow them in their plans rather than submit a scholarly solution of the problem studied from an unprejudiced standpoint. Librarians as a rule have decided notions as to the relation of rooms and departments, and an architect should be chosen, so that in consultation the theory of the one may be either studied into shape or proved inferior to the theory of the other. Architects of experience, who have been students of library development in its every branch, who have followed the changes in relation of the library to the people, have reached same conclusions along broad lines, as have the librarians, with respect to lighting, access, and administration, and the skilled architects' methods of procedure tends to settle mooted points by weighing values and considering relations of parts in a logical and broad-minded study of the particular set of conditions pertaining to the individual problem.

Often have I heard my professor of design, a Frenchman of rare judgment, fly out at a student caught working on his exterior before the interior was complete: Work on your plan, finish your plan, and when that is perfect the rest will come.

Either owing to the size, shape, or contour of the site, its particular exposure, local climatic conditions, the particular character of the library itself or the people whom it serves, the problem presented to an architect by a library board is always essentially a new one. Certain fundamental rules may obtain through their universal applicability, but every step in the working out of a successful plan must be influenced by the particular conditions referred to, and here the coöperation to the architect, no matter how wide cause of the education of the people? his experience may be.

Desired correlation, like most results, can be achieved in divers ways, and in most cases nothing of utility need be should be selected before anything else sacrificed to secure a dignified plan, in order that he be familiar with all the

architects endeavor to find out the dignified exterior. Realizing the importance of accomplishing successful results, a scholarly architect will strive to mould his plan with an eye to symmetry, without losing sight for an instant of the conditions of use, and never sacrificing practical relationship to gain an absolutely symmetrical arrangement

of plan.

Along the symmetry, the logical development of the plan in study keeps in mind something of the rough form of the exterior design, with particular reference to the grouping of its masses to secure the maximum of air and the best light for the various departments. With the best designers, it is an unwritten law, that the next step after completing a satisfactory plan, is to sketch a section through the building, not only to ensure a proper proportion in the inclosed rooms, but most important of all to secure a system of fenestration, allowing wall space where needed and introducing the light as near the top of the rooms as the finish will permit. Having settled then all the details of plans and section, wherein are comprised all of the matter of greatest moment to the practical librarian, it only remains for the architect to prepare a suitable exterior, and I certainly agree with my old perceptor that "it will come." The American people believe that education is the cornerstone of manhood and citizenship, and next to our public schools, if not before them, the most potent educational factor is our public library. The librarians are responsible in a great measure for the good work which is being accomplished in the dissemination of knowledge and culture among the people; but let me ask, are we not responsible for our share, as coworkers with them, to perpetuate in lasting masonry the best of the librarian is of inestimable value which in us lies for the same great

Mr Patton of Chicago, in discussing the paper, said he considered it absolutely necessary that the architect which is as much to be desired as a librarian's requirements, and that the

interior arrangement should be the only other immovable quantities will allow, matter thought of then. The plan of the librarian's ideas should prevail in giving premiums is bad because it is developing the plans of the library. If no temptation to the skilled architect, the librarian is not competent to give and is a bait to many of an inferior the best advice on these topics, there grade. He thought it would not be is a mistake to rectify before the new long before library architecture would building is commenced, that is, to sebecome a specialty.

Mr Dewey followed with the plea for a plan by which libraries might get the combined judgment of several architects without giving offense to the profession, and, at the same time, be able to pay a fair compensation for the serv-

ice.

Mr Patton said that consultation on the part of the profession was becom-

ing more common every year.

Mr Dewey advised that every state commission have an expert in library architecture, to whom should be referred all suggestions for the plans for libraries, and thought their decision should be final.

Miss Ahern said that in planning to build a large library the advice of an architectural expert is perhaps the best solution of the problem, and there might be no objection to taking the advice of the architectural expert as The greatest need for helpfulness in this problem, however, is in the case of the library board in small towns with limited means for the building. The trustees as a rule are not familiar with the plans and needs of the administration of the library, and in many cases their first show of interest, of any importance, in its welfare comes after outside generosity has furnished means for a new building or better facilities. Then, too, often the matter is taken entirely in the hands of library boards, and the architect selected by competition, and the librarian's views and wishes in the matter often overlooked.

The same principle should apply in planning a library building as in building a house in which to live. The housewife, or the one who is to administer the affairs of the household, is always consulted as to the arrangement and the extent of the interior, and so far as the means at command, location and

cure a librarian competent to fulfill the duties which rightly belong to that position.

Mr Dewey thought that an architectural expert would, from wider view of many buildings, perhaps be a safer guide than the one whose experience was more limited, and certainly in case of very large libraries an architectural expert should be called in.

At the close of the discussion Mr Payne, trustee of the public library at Nevada, Iowa, gave an interesting account of their new library and the progress they are making in their library work.

The officers of the section for the incoming year were then elected, as follows: President, D. B. Corey, Malden, Mass.; secretary, T. L. Montgomery, Philadelphia.

#### Children's librarians' section

The second session of the section was called to order at 2.30, July 6, when the discussion of children's books was resumed.

The discussion was opened by Miss Plummer, who gave an account of the work done in the training class for children's librarians in the matter of directing the reading by or to the children. The work in the class was highly satisfactory, but such an exercise requires an unusually intelligent reader to be a success. Miss Plummer cautioned against fairy books in which the author tries to be smart, and in which the atmosphere of unbelief on the part of the author is apparent. Miss Plummer made a very strong appeal for a personal knowledge of the books in the department of fiction before purchasing or recommending. She said nothing will take the place of knowing the books we handle, and having our own

opinion of them. Until the proper relation can be established between the child and librarian he will not be influenced very much in his choice of books. Sometimes this relation may be established in five minutes, sometimes in a week, month, or year. Sometimes it seems impossible to do it, and some other personal influence must be

waited for. She said further:

People sometimes say that the children's own tastes in reading should be our guide. This is true thus far, that if a child is reading books that do not seem good for him in our judgment, we should find out what it is in these books that appeals to him; then look for the same thing in books that are better written and lack the objectionable features, and both librarian and child are satisfied. Children learn a great deal by absorption, and if the children's librarian can give them the sort of plot or incident they want, and, at the same time, a book from which they can absorb good English instead of bad, high ideals and a high code of behavior instead of low ones, she has accomplished a great part of her task.

The taking up of nature study and the study of art in the public schools has meant a great pressure upon libraries for books which teachers and pupils have heard of, but of the merits of which many of them, as well as ourselves, are unable to judge. In order to have books enough to meet the demand, our temptation is to buy entire series, every book we hear of in these lines, whereas our best plan would be to get them for inspection only, invite the inspection and criticism of some scientific person, or some one conversant with art and its literature, and reject what they condemn, putting in duplicates enough of the approved books to meet the large demand. A thing we need to beware of is the stampede—the wild rush to or away from a thing without reasoning, without stopping to think, just because other libralibrarian needs at such times to keep cool, brace himself or herself against of cooperation between schools and li-

the rush, and when the dust of the crowd is over think things out and go ahead. And in these lines where special knowledge is necessary, do not let us think ourselves infallible or even altogether competent; let us be humble enough to take advice and information from those who have a real claim to know.

Mr Dana gave a talk on What children should know, and read a short article on same subject by an expert in criticism who had read through hundreds of the Nickel library, and said they were good, and their authors were trying to do just as good work as Pansy or Elsie He further advised cooperation of librarians in making list of children's books based on actual knowledge of books.

Mr Wellman suggested that this be a small list, as Miss Hewins would not have Editha's burglar and he would.

Mr Hensel of Columbus gave a short talk on Reference work in schools, giv-

ing experience in his town.

Miss Stanley, of the Brookline, Mass., library, gave a carefully prepared report on reference work with children. It consisted of the facts and opinions received in answer to an inquiry sent to libraries in various parts of the country concerning the extent, purpose, and scope of the reference work done by them with children. This report will be given in full in another number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Miss Eastman, in discussing the paper, said: Miss Stanley says, I think we are agreed that for the children our aim reaches to a familiarity with reference tools, to knowing how to hunt down a subject, to being able to use to best advantage the material found. In a word, we are concerned not so much to supply information as to educate in

the use of the library.

The aim is well stated, and we are agreed in it, I believe, but are we agreed as to, and 'have we given sufficient thought to, the methods by which ries we know are engaging in it. The this desirable aim is to be accomplished? Where, in that ideal ultimate

braries, toward which we are striving, will the necessary instruction be given, in the schools or in the library? Or, if in both, where will the division of labor be placed? I, myself, am inclined to think that the formal, systematic instruction in the use of books should be given in the schools, with sympathetic, systematic help on the part of the library. Is it not possible that we, as librarians, seeing the need, are over-anxious to do the whole work, or at least feel sometimes that we can do the whole work more easily and better than we can get the overworked teachers to do it, where a large part of the work really belongs to them for their own good and the saving up of that overwork?

More than in any other work with the children, this reference work requires that we go back of the children and begin with the teachers; no—not with the teachers, but with the teachers in embryo—the students in the normal

schools.

Mr Wellman thought the bulk of the reference work should be done in the library, thus giving children a knowledge of the resources in a reference library.

Mr Hutchins suggested that the work furnished Mr Dana by the teachers be used as a tentative list by the commit-

tee on children's books.

Miss Hunt's paper on Opening a children's room, gave the practical details of a children's room from the beginning, advising a librarian to live in her room, every corner of it, before it is even built. This was a description in detail of their work in opening the Newark children's room. Advised few smaller tables and chairs. Better have them of the standard sizes.

Best thing to do is to imbue your assistant with such a spirit of the place as is not often found—that really is born,

not made.

Discipline must be firm, but rather implied than arbitrary. Teach the children to be courteous.

Mr Carr suggested naming the room Young people's room rather than children's room, to avoid making it appear a kindergarten.

Discipline should be observed always. Remonstrate kindly at first, then eject

if they are unruly.

Bulletin work for children, by Miss Wallace,\* covered the main points to be observed in preparing bulletins for children's rooms.

Bulletins to catch the eye and to educate children in the love of books.

Described process of making and materials needed. Form is as necessary as subject; collect only material that is worth while and then weed out.

She showed some model bulletins and also two others to show what to avoid on account of bad background, poor selection of material, unallied subjects, and crazy way of putting the poor

material together.

Two papers were read on, Vitalizing the relation between the library and the school. Miss Prentice, of the Cleveland Normal school, presented the side of the school, showing how the work may be done by training teachers in the normal schools, and through them the children in the public schools.

Miss Prentice told how the teachers in the school were trained in the selection and weighing of books to be put into the hands of the children, and submitted a written report prepared by

one of the students.

Miss Warren of Chicago presented the side of the library, in which she pointed out that in order to meet the wishes of the schools, not only should the teachers be trained in the plans and methods of library work, but that the librarian should be acquainted with the great educational movements of the day in their children's departments, at least, shaping the course of their work to the needs of the hour.

The election of officers in this section resulted in Miss Moore, of Brooklyn as president; and Miss Dousman, of Milwaukee, continuing as secretary.

<sup>\*</sup>Miss Wallace's paper will be given in full in a later number of Public Libraries.

#### College and reference section

The College and reference section was called to order Saturday afternoon, July 6, W. I. Fletcher in the chair. In opening the meeting the president called attention to the progress made in library matters in the last 25 years. He talked of the problems of the 20th century and the problems of expansion. Some of the obstacles in the way of expansion he noted as library buildings. Another obstacle to expansion is the practice of inserting call numbers in catalogs of all kinds, written or printed.

Mr Fletcher was followed by J. T. Gerould of Missouri, who read a paper

on Departmental libraries. Mr Gerould said in part:

relating to his subject.

#### Departmental libraries

The arguments generally advanced in favor of the departmental library system are these:

The instructor needs to be able to refer, at a moment's notice, to any book

2 The system enables the instructor to keep a more careful watch over the work of his students.

3 The best interests of the library demand that there shall be a considerable measure of departmental oversight and control over the books in any given

department.

A system of stack study rooms, similar to that in the library of Columbia university, and telephonic connection between the offices of the instructors and the main library, will answer most of the purposes of the departmental system. The librarian, and not the professor, is, in almost every case, best qualified to watch over the interests, not only of the whole library, but of its component parts. The work of the professor should be of an advisory character.

The departmental library creates a feeling of departmental ownership; it renders the books difficult of access to the purchase of duplicates where the future meetings. By far the larger nummoney could be spent to much greater ber of the members, however, spent the

advantage in increasing the real resources of the library. Knowledge is not divided into sharply defined areas. A man who is working in any field of science should have at his command the entire resources of the library and not a few of his books. He is tempted by the departmental system to use the books in his library and to neglect the larger field.

The most weighty argument against the system is based on its cost of administration. There is certainly an increase in the cost of construction, in heating and lighting and in service. This increase could be expended to much better advantage in other lines.

The ideal university library is one where the books are housed in a central building, provided with stack study rooms and connected intimately, by telephone and messenger, with every office in the university. In addition to this central library there should be small, carefully selected laboratory libraries, containing books, which from their very nature are most useful as laboratory guides.

Mr Bishop prepared a paper on, Suggestions for an annual list of American theses for the Ph. D. degree, which was read by Mr Wyer. Mr Bishop's paper brought up considerable discussion of the desirability of publishing each year the list of dissertations presented in

the American universities.

A general discussion of the topics of classification, notation, the use of callnumbers, department libraries, and university theses, occupied the rest of the time of the meeting. Different ideas were presented by Mr Fletcher, Mr Hodges, Mr Root, Mr Andrews, and others.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, A. S. Root, Oberlin; secretary, W. M.

Smith, Wisconsin.

Saturday evening was spent by some of the indefatigable workers in committee meetings and side conferences, the large body of students; it compels where further work was planned for

conversation or in dancing until a late closing words:

beautiful, and was observed as a day of rest according to individual notions by the entire membership. In the morning many attended the churches of the village, others took drives into the country, while a large number spent the day in Milwaukee, taking in the library building and other attractions of the city.

In the afternoon many availed themselves of the invitation of Senator Jones, and attended a concert at Bethesda

Spring park.

#### Madison day

Early Monday morning the whole party went by train to Madison. They were met on their arrival by a local committee, carriages were provided and the party was taken to various points of interest about the city, and through the beautiful drives adjoining the university grounds. At noon a most bountiful luncheon was spread in the armory, to which full justice was done by all present. At the close the association convened in the library hall, and was called to order by Pres. Carr. A most interesting paper was presented by Miss Plummer on, Some experiences in foreign libraries. Miss Plummer said she had no desire to make comparison between foreign and American libraries. The fundamental ideas of education in general of the schools and libraries were so different in the two countries that a just comparison was impossible. She told briefly of experiences which were her own in the libraries of Germany, France, and Italy, which were both amusing and interest-

Dr J. K. Hosmer read a most amusing and bright dissertation on the Era of the placard. It was a keen thrust at the indifference of the cultivated public to the intrusion, oftentimes impertinence of the zeal of the advertiser.

evening in the dining-room in social condition of things is expressed in his

The best thing we can do is to keep Sunday morning dawned bright and our temper, stamp down as we can what becomes too outrageous and indecent, and labor and pray for the refinement of the world's taste. This no doubt will come very slowly. Can we help the thing forward at all? Only as we can promote in general the diffusion of sweetness and light. If a man should be aroused to attack directly, I believe he might strike a more effective blow through ridicule than through denunciation. Keep denunciation for the more weighty and ghastly evils that beset us; a mere annoyance it is better

to laugh away if we can do it.

At the close of Dr Hosmer's paper the party was led through the new Historical library building, and under the guidance of members of the staff were shown through the various departments. There was but one opinion of the entire party in regard to the beauty and arrangement of the building, and that was satisfactory to the highest degree. The marble and stone of the building have preserved in the clear atmosphere of Madison the pure white which so soon disappears in city districts. The beautiful reading-room was greatly admired by everyone, and even those who are wont to think that Bates hall and the halls of the Congressional library at Washington are beyond compare, were willing to admit that the enthusiasm and praise of the room were merited. The picture of the party on the steps of the library was the closing feature of the afternoon. The party returned to Waukesha well pleased with its trip and delighted with the hospitality of the Madison people.

In the evening a reception was tendered the visitors by the City federation of Women's clubs of Waukesha, who provided a most enjoyable evening.

#### Fifth session, Tuesday a. m.

The first report, that on Gifts and bequests, was prepared by George W. Cole, and gave 482 separate gifts, Dr Hosmer's notion of bettering the amounting to \$19,786,465, distributed as follows: 468 gifts in 39 of the United ciation to carry the work through if States, 10 in British provinces, and three in Scotland.

Mr Fletcher presented the

#### Report of the A. L. A. Publishing board

This was distributed in printed form. This stated that the book publications, except List of subject headings, have been issued at a loss, which has been offset by the profit on card publications; Houghton, Mifflin & Co. handles the constitution, prepared by a special the books, except Subject headings. Important work in active progress is Literature of American history, edited by J. N. Larned, and for which Mr Iles of New York has given \$10,000. It is now ready for publication, as is also the supplement to the A. L. A. catalog.

Mr Fletcher then outlined the plan to have the catalog cards prepared and printed by the Congressional library.

At the close of the report Mr Dewey made a strong plea for the support by the association of the plan of coopera-

tive printed catalog cards.

The secretary read a letter from the honorable secretary of the Library association of the United Kingdom, inviting the A. L. A. to be represented at its annual meeting, to be held in Plymouth, England, Aug. 27-30, 1901; and it was voted that members of the A. L. A. abroad at the time of the English meeting be authorized to represent the A. L. A. on that occasion.

The secretary then read the report of F. J. Teggart, chairman of committee on Handbook of American libraries. After speaking of the amount of material collected, and the difficulties under which it was gotten together, Mr Fletcher stated that the large body of the material had been reduced to shape and the greater part typewritten on sheets. Up to the present the chairman of the committee has expended on this work about \$150. Owing to the general terms in which authority for the expense was given at previous meetings, the expense of the work has been so far met by personal means, and it would seem proper that some definite provision should be made by the assothe handbook is to be considered an

A L. A. undertaking.

Mr Andrews reported, as a member of the committee, that he had made application to the Bureau of education to undertake the publication of the book, and there seems at this time every prospect that the material will be published by the Bureau of education.

The secretary read the by-laws to committee and adopted by the council,

as follows:

#### By-laws

Section 1. The annual dues of the association shall be \$2 for individuals and \$5 for libraries and other institutions, payable in advance in January. Members who are one year in arrears shall, after proper notification by the treasurer, be dropped from the roll of member-

Sec. 2. Nine members shall constitute a quorum of the council for the transaction of routine business, but no sections of the association shall be established, and no recommendation relating to library matters shall be promulgated at any meeting at which there are less than 17

members present.

Sec. 3. In case of a vacancy in any office, except that of president, the executive board may designate some person to discharge the duties of the same pro tempore.

Sec. 4. No person shall be president, first or second vice-president, or councilor of the as-

sociation for two consecutive terms.

Sec. 5. The president and secretary, with one other member appointed by the executive board, shall constitute a program committee, which shall, under the supervision of the executive board, arrange the program for each annual meeting, and designate persons to prepare papers, open discussions, etc., and shall decide whether any paper which may be offered shall be accepted or rejected, and if accepted, whether it shall be read entire, by abstract, or by title. It shall recommend to the executive board printing accepted papers entire, or to such extent as may be considered desirable.

Sec. 6. The executive board shall appoint annually a committee of five on library training, which shall investigate the whole subject of library schools and courses of study, and report the results of its investigations, with its recom-

mendations

Sec. 7. The executive board shall appoint annually a committee of three on library administration, to consider and report improvements in any department of library economy, and make recommendations looking to harmony, uniformity, and cooperation, with a view to economical administration.

Sec. 8. The executive board shall, at each

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annual meeting of the association, appoint a committee of three on resolutions, which shall prepare and report to the association suitable resolutions of acknowledgments and thanks. To this committee shall be referred all such resolutions offered in meetings of the associa-

The business of sections which may be established by the council under the provisions of section 17 of the constitution, shall be discussion, comparison of views, etc., upon subjects of interest to the members. No authority is granted any section to incur expense on account of the association, or to commit the association by any declaration of policy. A member of the association eligible under the rules of the section may become a member thereof by registering his or her name with the secre-

tary of the section.

Sec. 10. Provisions shall be made by the executive board for sessions of the various sections at annual meetings of the association, and the programs for the same shall be prepared by the officers of sections in consultation with the program committee. Sessions of sections shall be open to any member of the association, but no person may vote at any section unless registered as a member of the same. The registered members of each section shall, at the final session of each annual meeting, choose a chairman and secretary, to serve until the close of the next annual meeting.

Dr Hosmer reported the following action by the Council:

#### Resolution on John Fiske

The news having reached us of the untimely death of John Fiske, once our professional associate, we, the American Library Association, desire to make record of our profound grief at the departure of a writer who was a dominant force in American literature, and to express our sense that in this passing of a great thinker, historian and spiritual leader, our land and our time have sustained irreparable loss.

J. K. HOSMER. R. G. THWAITES. GEORGE ILES.

Children's library section, then presented the report of the committee appointed to consider the cooperative list had been hardly time to bring the plan to perfection, and asked that authority be given to the committee to proceed with the following plan: 1) That committee be authorized to collect subscrip-

experienced librarian be appointed to prepare a said list; that the person preparing the list secure a report as to the manner in which books have been received by children in all parts of the country; that a report be made at the next meeting to include the books generally accepted, and those rejected as well.

After some discussion it was voted that same committee, acting for the Children's library section, be appointed to carry out the outline, the committee to consist of C. R. Perry, J. C. Dana,

and E. G. Browning.

By-laws

Mr Putnam then reported that the Library of congress was quite ready to take up the work of supplying printed cards, but it was justified in entering upon the undertaking only in case a reasonable probability of success is presented. For that probability three elements are essential. These three elements seem to be furnished by the Publishing section of the A. L. A., to keep the matter in touch with the librarians at large; the Publishers' weekly, to keep the matter in direct relation with the publishers of the country, and by the generosity of Mr Bowker, who guarantees, if necessary, \$1000 to meet the needs of the case for the coming year. This announcement of Mr Putnam's was received with great applause by the

J. C. Hanson, of Congressional library, read Mr Solberg's paper on Book copyright, an abstract of which is as follows:

#### Book copyright

Thorwald Solberg, Register of copyright, Washington, D. C.

The paper on Book copyright by the Mr Perry, of the committee from the register of copyrights was a concise presentation of certain general principles governing copyright in books, no attempt being made at elaboration or of children's books He said that there illustration. Defining, firstly, what is copyrighted, that is to say, what can be properly designated as a "book" in order to secure copyright protection thereon; the nature of the protection secured under the copyright law, and tions to aid the work. 2) That some the difference between it and patent

law protection were explained. The limitations of the protection secured by copyright were stated, i. e., as to time, during which the protection applies, and its territorial limitations. Who is entitled to copyright in the United States was answered, and the difference in the legal status of an author and a proprietor explained, while some space was devoted to international copyright; what the term really means, what the copyright relations of the United States imply, and how they differ from the copyright protection secured by the ordinary international relations as to copyright brought about by means of conventions or treaties. The conditions and formalities required to be complied with under the United States copyright laws, in order to secure valid copyright protection, were concisely set out, as well as the steps necessary to be taken in order to obtain copyright in England simultaneously with copyright in the United States.

The functions of the copyright office as an office of record were given and differentiated, and the methods used in indexing the copyright entries, and the card indexes of the office described. Finally, brief remarks were made as to possible copyright law amendments, it being suggested that probably the most important forward steps to take, as measures of advantage and justice to our literary producers, would be an extension of the term of protection, and the entry of the United States into the International copyright union, commonly called the Berne union.

George Iles of New York then read a paper on the Trusteeship of literature,

in part as follows:

#### Trusteeship of literature George Iles, New York city

Drawing his twoscore contributors almost wholly from the American Historical association, J. N. Larned of Buffalo, an honored leader of ours, has, without fee or reward, acted as chief editor of an annotated Bibliography of American history. The work is now passing through the composing room dealing with the contemporary liter-

of Houghton, Mifflin & Co. of Boston. Its contributors include professors of history at Bowdoin, Bryn Mawr, Columbia, Harvard, McGill, Toronto, Tulane, and Yale, as well as the universities of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Chicago; our own association is worthily represented by Messrs James Bain, Clarence S. Brigham, V. L. Collins, W. E. Foster, J. K. Hosmer, E. C. Richardson, and R. G. Thwaites. As a rule the notes are signed. Where for any reason a book demanding notice could not be allotted to a contributor, Mr Larned has quoted the fairest review he could find in print. He has included not only good books, but such other works as have found an acceptance they do not deserve. All told his pages will offer us about 3100 titles; a syllabus of the sources of American history is prefixed by Paul Leicester Ford; as an appendix will appear a feature also of great value. In their Guide to American history, published in 1896, professors Channing and Hart, of Harvard university, recommended such collections of books as may be had for \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, or \$100. Prof. Channing is kind enough to say that he will revise these lists and bring them down to date as a contribution to Mr Larned's work. Prof. Channing may, we trust, name the books in each collection in the order in which they may be most gainfully read.

In times past our bibliographies have begun to need enlargement the moment they left the bindery; in the present case that need is for the first time to be supplied. Mr Larned's titles come to the close of 1899; beyond that period current literature is to be chosen from and appraised with the editorship of Philip P. Wells, librarian of the Yale Law library, who will issue his series in card form. We hope that he may be ready with his cards for 1900 at the time that Mr Larned's book appears. Thereafter Mr Wells' series will probably be published quarter by quarter. Beginning with 1897, W. Dawson Johnston, now of the Library of congress, has edited for us a series of annotated cards

form and substance of his series are capital. In so far as his cards go directly into catalog cases, where readers and students must of necessity see them, they render the utmost possible aid. If subscribers in sufficient array come forward. Mr Larned's book may be remolded for issue in similar card form, with a like opportunity for service in catalog cases. In the Cleveland Public library and its branches useful notes are pasted within the lids of a good many volumes. It is well thus to put immediately under the reader's eye the word which points him directly to his goal, or prevents him wasting time in wanderings of little value or no value at all.

With Mr Larned's achievement a new chapter is opened in American librarianship; he breaks a path which should be followed up with a discernment and patience emulous of his example. If the whole working round of our literature were sifted and labeled after his method, the worth of that literature, because clearly brought into evidence, might well be doubled at least. Every increase in the availability of our books, every removal of fences, every settingup of guide-posts, has had a heartening public response. So it will be if we proceed with this effort to bring together the seekers and the knowers, to obtain the best available judgments for the behoof of readers and students everywhere. Economics and politics, so closely interwoven with American history, might well afford the second field for appraisal. A good many libraries still find aid in the Reader's guide in this department, although it appeared as long ago as 1890. Next might follow the literature of the sciences pure and applied, together with the useful Among useful arts those of the household might well have the lead, for we must not be academic, or ever to the great body of the plain people. Mr Sturgis and Mr Krehbiel, in 1897, in their Bibliography of the fine arts; to the balances. At such a home, in New

ature of English history. Both the their guide might profitably be revised and enlarged in its several divisions, not omitting the introductory paragraphs which make the book unique in its class. These tasks well in hand, we might come to such accessions of strength and insight as to nerve us for labors of wider range and greater difficulty. where personal equations may baffle even the highest court of appeal, where it is opinion rather than fact that is brought to the scales. I refer to the debatable ground of ethics, philosophy and theology; and, at the other pole of letters, to the vast stretches of fiction and belles lettres in our own and foreign tongues. With regard to fiction and belles lettres, one of Mr Larned's methods has a hint for us. In some cases he has found it best to quote Francis Parkman, Justin Winsor, or the pages of the Nation, the Dial, the American historical review, and similar trustworthy sources. With respect to novels and romances, essays and literary interpretation, it does not seem feasible to engage a special corps of reviewers. It may be a good plan to appoint judicious editors to give us composite photographs of what the critics best worth heeding have said in the responsible press.

With a new sense of what is implied in the trusteeship of literature, if we endeavor in the future to ally ourselves with the worthiest critics of books, we must bid good-bye to the temporary expedients which have cramped and burdened our initial labors. The work of the appraisal of literature requires a home, a central bureau, with a permanent and adequately paid staff of editors and assistants. The training of such a staff has already begun. In addition to the experience acquired by those enlisted in our present bibliographical tasks, instruction is now given in advanced bibliography at the New York State library school at Albany, and lose sight of the duties nearest at hand doubtless also at other library schools; and at the Central bureau, which we are bold enough to figure to ourselves, much did an excellent piece of work for us more should be done than to bring books

York, Washington, or elsewhere, every other task should proceed which aims at furthering the good that literature can do all the people. There might be conducted the cooperative cataloging now fast taking form. There should be extended the series of useful tracts begun by that of Dr G. E. Wire on How to start a library; by F. A. Hutchins on Traveling libraries. At such a center should be exhibited everything to inform the founder of a public library; everything to direct the legislator who would create a library commission on the soundest lines, or recast library laws in the light of national experience; there, moreover, should be gathered everything to arouse and instruct the librarian who would bring his methods to the highest plane. Thence, too, should go forth the speakers and organizers intent upon awakening torpid communities to a sense of what they miss so long as they stand outside our ranks, or lag at the rear of our movement. In the fullness of time such a bureau might copy the Franklin society of Paris, and call into existence a needed book, to find within this association a sale which, though small, would be adequate, because free from the advertising taxes of ordinary publishing. To found and endow such a bureau would undoubtedly cost a great deal, and where is the money to come from? We may, I think, expect it from the sources which have given us thousands of public libraries, great and small. Here is an opportunity for our friends, whether their surpluses be large or little. When a gift can be accomcomes enriched. It is much when a goodly gift provides a city with a library, it would be yet more if the donation were to establish and maintain an agency to lift libraries everywhere to the highest efficiency possible; to give literature for the first time its fullest acceptance, its utmost fruitage.

Mr Iles was followed by Dr Richard T. Ely, Wisconsin university, who read a paper on the same subject. Dr Ely

made the following points:

I would have it understood that I have only the friendliest feelings personally for the gentleman who has brought forward what seems to me dangerous proposals. I admit that the readers in our public libraries generally need help in the selection of books, and that great assistance may be rendered by judicious advice. I further admit that harm has come from the study of so-called "crank" literature in economics and sociology, as well as in other branches of learning. But the magnitude of the interests involved in the proposal which greets us requires caution and conservatism in action. We must inquire into remote and permanent results. It is proposed, as I understand it, to have so called expert opinions expressed concerning books, new and old, and then by means of printed guides to bring these opinions and evaluations before the readers in our libraries.

This means, first of all, a judicial body of men from whom these estimates are to proceed. Have we such a body? Is it in the nature of things possible that we should have such a body? I say that so far as contemporary literature is concerned, the history of knowledge gives us a positive and conclusive negative answer-a most emphatic No. Let anyone who knows the circumstances and conditions under which reviews are prepared and published reflect on what the attempt to secure this evaluation of literature implies. We may in this connection first direct our attention to the general character of the periodicals from which quotations panied by personal aid and counsel, it are frequently made in the evaluation of literature. I express the opinion of many men whose judgment should have great weight when I say that one of the most brilliant of these periodicals has been marked by a narrow policy, having severe tests of orthodoxy along economic social and political lines. It should be carefully weighed whether or not, or to what extent, the evaluations of such a periodical ought to be crystallized as it were: that is, taken from the periodical press and made part of a

Let us reflect on this personal element in reviews, as it has surely fallen under the notice of every man with wide experience in these matters. As a rule, the reviewers are comparatively young and inexperienced men, frequently zealous for some sect or faction. Sometimes great leaders of thought write reviews, but generally they are unable to find the time to do so. As a result vor to keep open a free way for new in our reviews in the best periodicals it truth. will frequently be found that an inferior is passing judgment on a superior, and, furthermore, reviewers share in our common human nature, and the amount of personal bias, and even at times personal malignity, found in reviews and estimates of books is something sad to contemplate.

I would also call your attention to the absence of objective standards. Necessarily are the standards personal and subjective; particularly and above all in economics, but in high degree in sociology, ethics and philosophy in

general, and religion.

We have been laboring for years to obtain scientific freedom, freedom in teaching, freedom in learning, freedom in expression. Every new movement of thought has to struggle to make itself felt, and to struggle precisely against those who control the most respectable avenues of publication; against the very ones who would be selected to give expert opinions and make evaluations of literature. It would seem to me that if we are to have formal evaluations, they should at least be restricted to works which have been before the public for a period of 50 years.

We have in this proposal, as I take it, an attack on liberty, proceeding from one who would not willingly attack it, but illustrating the truth of the saying, Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. Let the ordinary reader go to a guide and find a book described as unscientific and superficial, and what weight can it have for him. The authority has spoken. It is all right for librarians personally to guide and direct nearly just one be substituted; and all

working library apparatus, to last for their constituencies, and one review may be weighed against another review. The great point is that there should be a fluid current of opinion, and every facility for a revision of judgment should be maintained. Reviewers themselves change their opinions, but if extracts from adverse reviews have been made part of a system of evaluation the criticism is crystallized.

Librarians as librarians must endea-

R. G. Thwaites: I know the limitations of reviewers, and there is, I think, a great deal of truth in what Dr Ely says. I always want to know, when I read a review, who wrote the review; after I know the individual who has written the review, I make up my mind more or less regarding its verdict. Take four or five men and ask them to write a note on the same book, and you will have four or five different judgments. It is perhaps a dangerous thing to crystallize these judgments; and yet librarians are asked for such judgments all the time.

Mr Thwaites cited an instance of a book which by an oversight was given him to evaluate, and also Dr Dewey, of the Institute of technology, with the result of two absolutely different opinions about the book. Mr Thwaites looked at the book as the story of an exploring tour down the Mississippi Valley, and found it exceedingly interesting from that standpoint. Dr Dewey looked at it as a study in sociology from an economic standpoint, and found it filled with fallacies and whims Mr Thwaites from his standpoint. thought more work of this kind should be done, as it was most useful, but he thought that Dr Ely's word of warning was one that librarians should take to heart very thoroughly.

Mr Iles desired that when a particular note can be replaced by a better one, in the light of further developments, that that particular one should be withdrawn, and a better and more

the subscribing libraries.

Mr Crunden thought that in the case of the instance cited by Mr Thwaites the editor should state that one was written from the standpoint of the sociologist and economist, the other from that of the historian and geographer.

Mr Putnam called attention to the difference between selection and ex- the association adjourned. clusion. He pointed out that it is the first duty of the librarians to select, with the means at their command, the books that will be most useful to the constituency. A librarian may not set himself up as an arbiter or an expert in every department of literature, and made. The doctrine which is attracting opinion in the world, he assumes must be represented in his selection. It is only a question of what represents this doctrine best, not whether this doctrine is right or wrong. If there is a book regarding which there are two opinions, the appraisal may give the two opinions, so far as it can be done In the process of selection the books that are not taken are neither disapproved of or placed in an index expurgatorius. They are simply left out, because in the process of selection, others seem more useful for the purpose of the library.

The next subject, The relationship of publishers, booksellers, and librarians, was presented in a very exhaustive paper by W. Millard Palmer, of the American booksellers' association. Mr Palmer stated that booksellers were undersold by general stores, by the publishers direct, and that librarians buy books at cut rates for friends and patrons. The only remedy that seemed practical to him was to take retail bookselling out of the hands of the publishers, cut out the general stores altogether, and give the libraries only listed prices on their books, since libraries only tend to cut down the trade of the booksellers by making one copy of a the two round tables were held, one book take the place of a large number.

Mr Bowker, of the Publishers' weekly, and editor of the Library journal, fol- the Catalog section.

substitutions be made gratuitously to lowed Mr Palmer, and took up the subject further, giving definite information with regard to the discount and other trade matters which have been under discussion by the Booksellers' association, and finally crystallized into the rules which shall hereafter govern the trade.

At the close of Mr Bowker's address

#### Tuesday afternoon

At the opening of the afternoon session, the discussion of the morning was continued on, The relationship of publishers, booksellers, and librarians.

The discussion was opened by Melvil yet in all departments choice must be Dewey in a very comprehensive address, in which he took the position that the day of the local bookseller in small communities is over, and that this is due largely to the multiplication of public libraries and their work. This does not mean that the influence of the library is designed to discourage private ownership of books, but that the library serves them better in securing information from the printed page which they wish than the stock kept by the small bookseller.

> Mr Fletcher followed Mr Dewey and reviewed the matter, arriving at the same conclusion, that the day of the small bookseller is over, and that the public will be served through the libraries. Mr Fletcher said that he should regret if the booksellers should come to follow the custom of the German publishing trade and refuse any discount to the buyer of books. He cautioned the association to go slow before it committed itself to any action which would not fully present the views of the whole association.

> Mr Bowker offered the resolution that the council be requested to appoint a committee on relations with the book trade, to which this question shall be referred, and the resolution was carried.

> At the close of the general session, on the work of the state Library commissions, and the other on the work of

Work of Library commissions

The Library commission round table was presided over by Mr Dewey. He stated the object of the meeting was to discuss the subject of traveling libraries and the work of the state commissions.

The first topic was, What is the best method of getting traveling libraries before the people? There were suggestions that they should be put in schoolhouses, into private homes, and that the people should be interested by

writing letters to them, etc.

Miss Stearns said: The best method is to interest the county superintendent and take him with you on a tour into the country, and take also the traveling library, just as a traveling man takes his samples. When you have got the people together, open the books, take out your Scribner or your Youth's companion; take out your books on the Philippines, on birds, on cookery; show your audience some good stories; and you will organize a library association ten times quicker than if you had started out by writing letters. These letters oftentimes are never answered, and then you wonder why the people do not want the books. Go to the people with the books.

Mr Galbreath said that in Ohio they found it best to reach the people of their state through organs which were devoted to specific interests, through the newspapers, through the official organ of the teachers of the state, through the official organ of the state grange, and through the women's clubs, etc.

The discussion of how to interest the people in traveling libraries became very interesting, and was carried on by Mr Hutchins, Mr Dewey, Miss Stearns, Mr Anderson, Mr Hostetter, Mr Brig-

ham, and others.

At the close of this discussion the question of securing reduced postal rates for library books came up. Mr Hutchins gave an account of the effort that is being made in Wisconsin to secure free transportation through the rural delivery routes.

Hostetter of Illinois made the motion that the section request the council of the association to negotiate with the express companies of the United States for reduced rates on traveling library books. The motion was adopted.

Mr Huse of Vermont recommended that the association urge the passage of the Jenkins' bill, which provides that wherever there is established a public library from which rural delivery routes radiate, books may be carried upon those routes from the public library to the patrons in the country without cost. They may not, however, be returned free; in returning they must either be returned personally to the library or postage must be paid. Mr Huse's motion was adopted.

Mr Dewey recommended that the movement for the pound rate for library books receive favor, and that the council be asked to support the bill. A motion to this effect was made and carried.

A very earnest discussion on the topic of county libraries as units in a state library system was then taken up, and the discussion was opened by Mr Hodges of Cincinnati. He pointed out the advantage of the system as it is planned in Hamilton county, Ohio. The local conditions in the various states were brought forward by the different members. There seemed to be such a difference of condition between the various localities that no recommendation on the topic of county libraries was made.

The next topic to be discussed was the subject, Can state commissions provide traveling libraries for hamlets which furnish the money, and make such hamlets traveling library stations? Mr Hutchins stated from the experience in Wisconsin that such an arrangement could be satisfactorily made.

The afternoon was spent in the discussion of these various problems, and at a late hour the section adjourned.

#### Cataloging section

The meeting of the cataloging section brought together a large company At the close of the discussion Mr of those interested in that branch of library work. The plan formulated by ner M. Jones, reported the nomination the committee for this meeting embodied the discussion of knotty points, and the afternoon was accordingly devoted to the consideration of the technicalities of cataloging with special reference to the printed cards to be issued in pursuance of the cooperative plan. The size of the cards, the arrangement of the information and size notation were the principal points discussed.

Chairman Hopkins, in opening the meeting, said that there would be no set papers, but there would be a discussion of certain points made by the committee and the publishing board in their attempt to produce a workable scheme in the matter of catalog cards.

The first topic discussed was size of card as between the no. 32 and no. 33 size card.

With regard to printing catalog cards on the cooperative plan, on a rising vote it was shown that 56 persons were in favor of using 33 card and printing below the 32 card limit rather than furnish two cards to a title; 17 persons voted in favor of confining the printing to size of the 32 card, and having second overflow card printed for the same title; three persons voted that they would like some arrangement to be made by which the 32 size card could be furnished. Mr Hopkins called attention to the fact that the Boston public library is changing its plan to accommodate this 33 size card, notwithstanding the many years in which the immense catalog has been running.

The next topic was Notes and contents, and their position on the catalog card. After a very full and earnest discussion the matter was put to a vote in the form of a request, that as many as are in favor of placing contents and notes immediately following the title should rise. Three persons rose. The negative was put in the form of the request, that as many as are in favor of putting the contents and notes after the collation, should rise; 52

The nominating committee, consist-

of Mr Hanson, of the Library of congress, for chairman, and Mary E. Hawley, of the John Crerar library, for secretary of the section for the coming year.

Tuesday evening was devoted to social entertainment and dancing, when no apparent effects of the arduous duties of the week were in evidence. During the evening the polls were opened in the office for the election of the officers for the coming year.

#### Seventh session, Wednesday a. m.

The result of the election was reported by the secretary, as follows:

President, John S. Billings, New York; 1st vice-president, J. K. Hosmer, Minneapolis; 2nd vice-president, Electra C. Doren, Dayton, Ohio; secretary, F. W. Faxon, Boston; treasurer, Gardner M. Iones, Salem; recorder, Helen E. Haines, New York; trustee of endowment fund, Charles C. Soule, Boston. Members of A. L. A. council, H. M. Utley, Detroit; John Thomson, Philadelphia; E. H. Anderson, Pittsburg; Johnson Brigham, Des Moines; M. E. Ahern, Chicago.

Mr Putnam, chairman of the committee on resolutions, after calling attention to the compliment to the association in having Dr Ely, not a member of the association, take occasion to discuss an undertaking of the association, read the resolution of the committee, expressing the appreciation and gratitude of the association for the courtesy and kindness extended to them by various persons interested in making arrangements for the Waukesha meeting. The report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

After a few remarks from Pres. Carr the association adjourned.

#### Work of Library associations

At close of the general session on Wednesday, the round table on Work of Library associations and Women's clubs convened, Miss Freeman, of Michigan City, Ind., in the chair.

The first address was given by J. C. Dana, of the Western Massachusetts Library club, on What the work of ing of Miss Wagner, Mr Roden and Gard-state library association should be. Mr

arouse an interest in libraries among the public and to increase the knowledge and enthusiasm of the members of the profession. It is a mistake to think that the chief purpose of an association is to hold an annual meeting. It is often thought that the annual program, and that well carried through, the work of the association for the whole year is done. The benefits of a state association come largely from correspondence between members, the preparation for the meeting, and the securing of ideas, new methods, and statistics, by circulating letters among members, and the publication in newsmeetings which have been. One is almost tempted to say that a library asis active during the year—carrying on correspondence and thoroughly advertising itself—and holds no meeting whatever, than it does if it holds an annual meeting and does not advertise. State library meetings are not designed for the benefit of those who organize them. The chief purpose of the association is enced members of the craft.

The general state association should take upon itself some definite work of permanent value as far as possible, which is of general interest; say the compilation of historical material, the making of a useful index, the issuance of popular lists, etc. This work may continue along the same line for several years, ending in the publication of something thoroughly worth while which shall have been the means of arousing interest in the profession itself and of bringing the members of it into touch with one another month by month and year by year.

I doubt if much benefit accrues, on the whole, from meetings held in remote places for missionary purposes in these same small communities by words, it will have to be something that

Dana said in part: The chief purposes sending to them occasionally one or of a state library association are to two active representatives of the association to speak before a woman's club, before the school-teachers, or a local literary society on the local library prob-

In making up the program of these meetings, I do not think it advisable to give up much time to local speakers, meeting once provided with a good either for words of greeting or for historical sketches.

Associations which are attended by librarians of smaller libraries who rarely get abroad, and do not often have an opportunity to meet their fellows and to expand in the social atmosphere of the library meeting, should cultivate to the greatest possible extent what one may call the conversational papers and elsewhere of notes about feature. Not only should ample opporthe meeting which is to come and the tunity be given before and after and between the sessions for informal talks. but a portion of the formal gathering sociation performs its duty better if it itself should be devoted to brief and rapid exchange of ideas. Some of the most diffident persons can be brought into this by being previously posted as to what to ask and when. Manufacture a little spontaneity by way of an icebreaker, and it is surprising how freely genuine spontaneity will then flow.

The state association should bring out to help the younger and less experithe diffident; cheer the discouraged ones; magnify our calling; compel public attention to the value of libraries; be active the whole year through, and always keep a little ahead of the general library progress in the state.

Miss McLoney of Iowa said that the work of the association should extend throughout the year, and that the preparation of the meeting will occupy a good share of that time. Whatever announcements are sent out should be sent to every library in the state, no matter whether that library is likely to be represented or not. It should have information as to the work that is being done by the state association. If one wishes to interest the newspapers in libraries, it will have to be on the strength of something more than what Better results can generally be reached libraries are going to do. In other

the newspapers can take up as news so that everything the state association and feel that the public are interested in; they want material that is fresh and newsy.

primarily the workers of the state association cannot expect to get much from the program at the meeting. The librarians of the smaller libraries should be given something definite, something technical, something that will be of of view.

I suppose the ideal condition would be to meet in some place where there are library facilities, but I believe it is worth while to move the association about as one way of advertising.

Miss Jones, in discussing the subject, said: I believe the greatest work of the association is done through the librarians individually. I would make a special plea that in deciding where to meet, the association should consider first, the librarians, and settle on a pleasant place for the members who meet fellow workers only once a year. There are librarians who have no vacations at all, except when their board allows them to go to the state association meeting; there are librarians who never know personally anything of this larger work done all over the country, and we should not ask such persons to come to a place where they are not going to be comfortable, and which they must spend a good deal of money to reach. We must be sure to have something for the librarians of the smaller libraries; something technical which they can carry away, feeling that it has been worth while

I believe in newspaper advertising, but I also think by working up a good mailing list through the state, and sending all circulars to individuals, you will do more than by newspaper advertising. It is a good thing to get one library in each city to keep a list of everyone in that city who ought to be interested in library work, whether members of the association or not, and let that library send to the secretary of the association a duplicate of that list, good library conference, rather than to

issues goes to each person who should be interested in library work.

Mr Eastman of New York told of It is true that the people who are the plan in which they had divided that state into 12 districts, in each of which a local conference will be held once a year. The object is to bring together library workers and librarians for 50 miles around.

Miss Stearns was opposed to always help to them from a professional point meeting in one place, and said she had known cases where meetings were held in one large central town, because it was so accessible; and the librarian of a little library, who cannot have open shelves and all facilities, goes to this town and sees its large library, with its red tape, and gets so completely tangled up in the red tape of that institution that she will never be able to disentangle herself.

Mr Wellman, of Massachusetts thought that in the older states of New England and elsewhere more attention should be given to intensifying library work than to extending it. He called attention to the series of lectures given by the Massachusetts library club on paper making, book binding, book illustrating, etc. Another thing that all associations should do is to give attention to the more scholarly side of librarianship, not to become so busy organizing, spreading library ideas, that we are in danger of losing sight of scholarship.

At the close of Mr Wellman's remarks, he moved that the assembly petition the program committee for another round table on the subject of state associations, and the motion was carried.

Miss Ahern, in speaking of her experience as secretary of library associations, in trying to interest the indifferent communities in the work of the association, said the conclusion had been reached that the proper thing for an association is to select a central point, and bring the librarians of the state, by individual effort, as far as possible in touch with the vitalizing spirit of a

try to take the association to an indifferent community. Program committees should know definitely the tendencies of the local speakers before they are invited to take a place on the program, lest in riding their particular hobby they run down perhaps to death the enthusiasm of the audience.

There is more danger in over-emphasizing the scholarly side of librarianship at state meetings than there is of not giving it sufficient attention. The American Library Association should stand for the higher tenets of the library faith, and the scholarly side should be strongly emphasized in its meetings. In local organizations the technical and smaller questions affected by local conditions should be the principal topics for discussion. A stronger effort should be made in all state association meetings to interest the trustees in the work the librarians are trying to do. A librarian may have all possible inclination and all possible enthusiasm, but if she does not have the cooperation and her equipment is a source of discom-Two things in the State library association should be emphasized: the needs of the librarians of the small libraries, and the education of the trustees.

Mrs E. J. Dockery of Idaho gave a very interesting account of How a library commission was founded in Idaho, which was followed by Mrs B. M. Stoutenborough of Nebraska, who gave an interesting address on What women's clubs can do to further the work of the library. She unfolded the plan by which the Nebraska federation of women's clubs secured the bill for traveling libraries in that state.

Mrs Youmans, president of the Wisconsin federation of women's clubs, paid a glowing tribute to the work of the library commission of Wisconsin in tion in bibliography and allied subject giving the state the prominent place among the library work of the states of some university might offer courses in the Union. She then gave a number of these subjects, open to students in all instances where women's clubs had departments and organized as a sepalargely organized and maintained pub- rate school of bibliography. lic libraries throughout the state.

Mr Hutchins, in closing the discussion, gave this one thought to the women's clubs of the country: Plan a study club, and in a few years you get a public library; plan a library, and in a few years you get five study clubs.

Miss Stearns, in speaking of Coöperation between A. L. A. and the general Federation of women's clubs, said that the A. L. A. had never realized what the women's clubs had done for the promotion of library interests. called attention to this being the first time in the history of the A. L. A. that the women's clubs have been recognized on the program. She moved that the A. L. A. council be requested to form an alliance between the American Library Association and the Federation of women's clubs for the promotion of library interest. The motion was carried. The meeting then adjourned.

#### Professional instruction in bibliography: Round table meeting, July 10, 1901

The chairman, A. G. S. Josephson, kindly sympathy of the library board introduced the discussion with a paper on A post graduate school of bibliography. He defined the word bibliography, following the definition of M. E. Grand in La Grande encyclopédie, as The science of books from the point of view of their material and intellectual description and classification. Instruction in bibliography, thus conceived, should cover classification, cataloging the literature of bibliography, history of printing, and also history and administration of libraries, although this latter did not come within the scope of the discussion. While the library schools had done much to foster a professional spirit among library workers, there was something that the schools could not attempt to give, and that was the scholarly spirit. The need of a more advanced instruc was recognized, and it was hoped that

A paper by Dr J. Leche, of the Uni-

J. I. Wyer. The writer described fully the courses and seminar exercises offered by Prof. Dziatzko. This paper was supplemented by A. S. Root of Oberlin college, who has studied at Göttingen, and told how Prof. Dziatzko was very favorably inclined towards American library methods. As to his courses. Mr Root found the seminars, and particularly the work with the incunabula, of most value and interest.

Prof. Charles H. Haskins, of the University of Wisconsin, gave a very interesting talk on historical bibliography as a university study, as carried on by himself. He commented on the importance of bibliographical studies to the student in any subject as well as to the librarian, and indorsed the chairman's proposition that some university estab- methods to take up library work. lish a special school of bibliography.

Several university librarians told of the courses in bibliography given by them to the students. Particularly interesting were the talks of Mr Harris of Cornell, and Mr Root of Oberlin. Dr H. P. Talbot, of the Massachusetts Institute of technology, had sent the chairman an outline of his course in chemical bibliography, which was read by Mr Wyer.

W. S. Merrill read a short paper suggesting that, in addition to the general instruction in bibliography and classification given in the library schools, special papers should be given by specialists on the progress and present standpoint of the various sciences. The speaker suggested that such papers or talks might with advantage be given before library associations and clubs, as it was of great importance to the library worker to keep abreast with scientific progress, and a paper by a scientist who afterwards could be interviewed, might be of greater advantage than the reading of a book.

The heads of the library schools also spoke of the work in bibliography at the schools, Mr Biscoe speaking for the Albany school. Most interesting was undoubtedly the talk by Miss Plummer,

versity library of Göttingen, assistant where she described very fully the histo Prof. Carl Dziatzko, was read by torical course in the second year at Pratt, when the students used the resources of New York public and Columbia university libraries. Miss Kroeger told of the work at Drexel institute, and Miss Sharp of the courses in the bibliography of special subjects given by the professors at the university of Illinois. The greatest difficulty was to get the professors to take the point of view of the librarian, especially to keep in mind the needs of the librarian of a small public library.

> In the discussion it was pointed out that a university graduate should not be expected to need two years to familiarize himself with library technique. It was also stated that the greatest need was to get scientific men trained in bibliographical and library

#### Conference notes

Mr Andrews of Chicago won the reputation of being able to give "the explanation that doesn't explain," and to change the subject at an opportune time.

Among those who were sadly missed both in business and social meetings were Mr Cutter, Miss Hewins, Mrs Fairchild, Mr Thomson, Mr Dudley, Mr and Mrs Elmendorf, Mr Gould of Toronto, and the two Miss lames'.

A plan for a new section is spoken of. The members will be dressed in kilts, and long-winded speakers are to be silenced with "Hoot, mon!" Mr Anderson is mentioned for chairman, and C. E. Wright for secretary.

The hearty enjoyment of those who essayed to "trip the light fantastic toe" was so evident and so contagious, that many an observer who had thought long ago his dancing days were over resolved "to know how" against the next time, and many began to practice right then and there.

The Cincinnati public library had a most complete and interesting exhibit of different phases of its work of so extensive a character as to require a separate room to show them. Particularly interesting was the diagram showing the growth and present extent of the system of branches through Hamilton county.

The trip by water to Buffalo was the occasion of many side conferences, professional and otherwise. At "the Pan-Am" were to be seen so many A. L. A. members badged with badger badges that the few outsiders made bold many times to inquire what sort of live stock exhibition was represented. It was rumored that a bride and groom wore the badges at Niagara Falls. That's the true library spirit!

One of the enthusiastic new members this year was Mary Hannah Johnson, of Nashville, Tenn. This was her first conference, and her two years' experience in library work had but whetted her spirit to find good and beauty in everything. One of the things which excited her highest admiration was the large number of "girls forty years old" who entered into everything so heartily. "Down south with us," said Miss Johnson, "women are old and laid on the shelf at the age where you all seem to be just in the midst of your work and

good times. It's marvelous!"

Another new member from the south. and a deeply interested one, is Miss Wilkinson of Memphis. Miss Wilkinson was graduated from Vassar and has spent much time in the north, her summers at Lake Placid club giving her a taste of library enthusiasm. She is anxious to have the A L. A. meet in Memphis in the near future, and brought cordial invitation to go there from the city officials. Ouite an interest was taken in the proposition when Miss Wilkinson said there were a large number of "Cottin bahs" in Memphis. With the memory of the former trip to Tennessee and Georgia in mind, and the lingering taste in mouth, some of the dry members were in for going at once. The drop in their enthusiasm was noticeable when it was finally made plain that Miss Wilkinson was really speaking of cotton buyers.

Reunions, suppers, dances, and piazza conferences were prominent features of the Waukesha conference, and the Illinois supper ranks high among them. It was one of those impromptu, spontaneous outbreaks of good fellowship which give the participants a hearty good time and a most pleasant recollection thereafter.

Sunday everybody slept or went to Milwaukee. Sunday evening they were all back, hungry but good-natured. Quickly the word was passed—Illinois will gather in the small dining-room; wait! And the sons and daughters of Illinois, those by birth and those by adoption, and many who had gone afar from home, waited, and then they gathered. There were 97 places filled and there were vacant chairs for those whom the word had not reached, but who came in later, till the number was 120.

Mr Hopkins was the jolliest of chairmen and Miss Ahern proved the wittiest and most tactful of toastmistresses. The latter had just 12 minutes' notice of her assignment. Mr Hild and Mr Andrews had no warning at all, nor were the other speakers any better prepared, but the wit and wisdom were all the better therefor.

President and Mrs-Carr, Dr Wire, Mr Ferrell, Mr Hanson, and many other prominent lights, were among those present. Mr Strohm kept his secret; Mr Keogh paid his tribute to "the prairie rose." The state song, Illinois, Illinois, was sung as a solo by Miss Rommeiss, and then Miss Sharp's girls showed how they sang it at U. I.

It was a progressive supper. At the conclusion of each course one-fifth of the assemblage arose and exchanged seats. "Don't forget your napkin and glass of water!" Many new and pleasant acquaintances were formed amid the general hilarity.

The supper was a remarkable success considering the lack of preparation. It accomplished its object—to promote acquaintance and good fellowship in Illinois.

C. R. P.

# Public Libraries

Library Burea	u	-	-	-	-	-	Pub	lishers
M. E. AHERN		-	-		-	-	-	Editor
Subscription							\$1	a year
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PUBLIC LIBRARIES does not appear in August or September, and 10 numbers constitute a volume.

Public Libraries was honored at the meeting of the National association of State librarians by being designated the official organ of that body. We duly appreciate the honor, and shall try as best we can to forward the objects and purposes of the association.

WE cordially invite librarians of all degrees to send us promptly all items of news, library changes, new methods or suggestions for publication. We must ask that all matter be signed with name and position, so that we may identify the sender, not necessarily for publication, but for the protection of our readers.

THE program of the twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Library association of the United Kingdom gives a most interesting feast of good things both for business and sociability. The meeting was held at Plymouth, and the entertainment provided brings up many happy memories of the reception of the delegates to the International conference of 1897.

This is the first number of Public LIBRARIES after the summer vacation. The larger part of it is given up to the report of the A. L. A. meeting at Waukesha. Considerable condensation in the addresses was necessary, but enough is generally given to get a good idea of the proceedings. The full proceedings are published, and may be had on application to the secretary of the A. L. A.

THE abridged edition of Poole's index to periodical literature is now ready for delivery, and will be gladly welcomed by librarians generally, but ments and institutions of the country,

particularly those libraries which do not have either the material or means that call for the larger edition, and yet which have many sets that will be made much more valuable by the abridged edition.

The plan of the book is simply a compilation from the complete Poole indexes and supplements to the end of 1899, containing all the references to 37 sets of periodicals, which, in the judgment of Mr Fletcher, the editor, are most likely to be found in the average library.

The price has been fixed at \$12 cloth, and \$16 half morocco, and the volume may be ordered from Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

In an account of the Waukesha meeting, Miss Doren of Dayton says in a local paper:

As a clearing house for ideas which may lead to some practical result the recent conference has been a success. One of the most important projects brought forward was that of the free distribution of public library books by means of the mails. A growing sentiment in favor of arrangement whereby this might be done has culminated in several different plans offered respectively from Massachusetts and Wisconsin. From the latter state the plan of a central public library for each township, with a system for rural delivery of books to the farmhouses, has able champions in Senator J. H. Stout of Menominee and Congressman Jenkins of Chippewa Falls. Should this be effected for Wisconsin, and government aid through reduced postal rates secured, Mr Dewey's dream of large central distributing libraries, and local libraries for smaller popular collections of books and picures only, will not be far from realization. Great enthusiasm and a lively hope for the success of the rural delivery of books was very generally expressed. The council appointed a committee to inquire into and report upon the matter of increased facilities for book distribution.

Another successful library gathering was the meeting of the Library section of the N. E. A. at Detroit. It was one of the two most successful sections of the N. E. A. in point of numbers attending and in the interest taken in the work in hand.

The audiences of the two meetings were largely made up of people prominent in the leading educational moveand the close attention paid to the library doctrines set forth by Mr Dewey, Dr Canfield, and Mr Fletcher, and others, on the part of these people, argues well for their future helpfulness in vitalizing the relations between

schools and libraries.

The program was a strong one, every person on it being chosen for his or her particular, strong ability in the line presented, and the discussions showed that the words uttered had received attention from the audience.

Ouite a large number of librarians were present, particularly from the colleges and normal schools, and there was quite a flavor of the library spirit in the atmosphere of the meetings.

The meeting was a success from every standpoint, and there lies a world of hopefulness for future work in that

success.

As MORE and more the Congressional library is lending its resources and helpfulness to the advancement of the library movement, the wisdom of a central bureau for the housing and gathering of the forces and material of · the library cause becomes more apparent. It is slowly becoming in verity a national library in its extended and ever-widening spirit of helpfulness, and a sense of the eternal fitness of things will shortly cause the change of name to one more indicative of the great work it is accomplishing.

The removal to Washington of the headquarters of the publishing board of the A. L. A., and the cooperation of the two organizations in furnishing printed catalog cards and other library coöperative works, will be a long step in the direction of developing a broader view of the functions of the Congressional library, and place at command of the A. L. A. a much larger source of helpfulness than it now en-

joys.

From all parts of the country and under various degrees of comfort gathered the hosts of librarians and their friends, during the first four warm days of July, in the spacious quarters provided for the meeting at Waukesha. Too much cannot be said in praise of the indefatigable and very successful efforts of the Wisconsin committees toward making the arrangements satisfactory in every particular for the vis-

itors during their stay.

A large majority of the people present attended their first conference of American librarians at Waukesha, and the interest, enthusiasm, and evident progress made at this meeting is due largely to that fact. For months the local associations in the middle west were at work to interest the librarians of their different states in the importance of being present at Waukesha. Their efforts were successful, and there was but one note sounded in regard to the meeting, and that was satisfaction.

If one would presume at all to make the criticism, it would be on the fact that many papers of great length were presented in some of the sections with little difference in the point of view of the various writers, and in some instances more than one paper was read by the same person. Variety of sound as well as opinion would have added spice. The usual number of people failed to respond after having been engaged to present a paper. In several instances this was excusable, but would not this be a good time to adopt some such rule as prevails in the N. E. A., and have read and printed only such papers as are presented by their authors?

The unanimous enjoyment of the freedom from the noise and dirt, not to mention higher distractions of a city meeting, fully attested the approval of holding the meeting at a summer re-

sort

The fraternal feeling was in full evidence in the almost utter absence of criticism, personal or professional, and in the hearty good will with which everyone and everything was welcomed and enjoyed.

The Waukesha meeting, taken all in all, was highly successful, and a standard of excellence may be found in its

#### The Library Section of the N. E. A.

The fifth annual meeting of the Library department of the National educational association was held in Detroit at the fortieth annual convention of the N. E. A. July 11 and 12.

This meeting was the most satisfactory held in the history of the department. The meetings were more largely attended than ever before. The interest was genuine and helpful and the papers presented throughout were of an extraordinarily high character. R. C. Metcalf, district supervisor of public schools in Boston, presided, and opened the meeting on Thursday afternoon with an address on The library movement and what it means. Pres. Metcalf said in part:

The general demand for library privileges which has come, is coming, and will continue to come from all classes of our people and from all grades of our schools, plus the response which has come from the libraries themselves, has caused, and may be called, the Library movement. Those of us who have seen 50 years or more can easily trace this movement from small beginnings to the present remarkable proportions.

The change in public sentiment toward libraries has not been confined to one state or to one section of our country. It has spread throughout the Union and is now one of the great educational forces of the land. The common people now look upon the library as a necessity—as a grand, free, public school which brings education to the very doors of even the poorest There is a general demand for the privileges which the library brings, a demand which has met with a most generous and enthusiastic response from the men and women who control the library forces. This is the library movement, and it means a general diffusion of knowledge amongst all classes of the people-it means the cultivation of a more refined taste, and a general uplifting of moral tone whenever and wherever the best literature is read.

I was invited 25 years ago to give an address before the American Library Association, which at that time met in Boston. The question assigned was, How can the library best serve the schools? The fact that such a body of men should have invited a schoolmaster to help them formulate a plan by which the public library could serve the schools, shows the spirit which even then inspired the work of the librarians of the country. This has always been the spirit of the representatives of our public libraries, and any seeming failures to accomplish all that in reason could be expected, must be ascribed to other causes than a lack of inclination on the library side. In fact, I may say here that the greatest obstacle in the way of leading children to read and enjoy the reading of good books has been those teachers who have little if any real love for good books themselves. The only classes of pupils that I have found, in my long experience, to be enthusiastic lovers of the best books, have been classes in charge of highly cultivated men and women of unquestionable library taste. The libraries have been ready to help; too\* many of the schools have not been ready to be helped. All honor to those, whether teachers or librarians, who have given a helping hand in so training children that they will love the purest and best in our literature

Assuming that a great public library is a great public blessing, we, as representatives of the whole country, ought to be familiar with the library facilities of the whole country, to the end, I) that the influence of this department may be felt in aid of the establishment of libraries where none are now to be found; and, 2) that the character of those now established, but sustaining a precarious and unprofitable existence, may be improved.

The library and the school are coordinate institutions; neither is complete in itself, but each is necessary to the success of the other. What more important work can we do in the Library department of the National

the clearest manner possible the interrelation of the forces of the two great educational institutions, the library and the school? Today they stand face to face in the land, each somewhat jealous of the other's claims, each timidly asking the other's help, but each somewhat fearful of the other's encroachment upon native rights and privileges. These fears must be removed; these jealousies must give way to confidence and respect; these two great educational forces must unite in a common warfare May we not hope that our school upon ignorance. To this work also

your attention is invited.

A good public library stands for what is highest and best in a community. An ideal librarian knows and loves books, and he will make any needed sacrifice to assist both young and old in selecting such courses in reading as are most likely to interest, instruct, and healthfully stimulate the reader. But the duties of a librarian are usually so exacting that he has little time to give to the instruction or the entertainment of his patrons. Why may not every large library employ at least one person of prime scholarship, and of excellent judgment and tact, whose sole business it shall be to teach the people what and This result may be how to read? reached by the free distribution of suggestive leaflets, by familiar talks, and by practical illustrations in the library itself which will show how to find in the books before the readers, some timely information respecting matters of common interest.

The ordinary reading books serve an excellent purpose by furnishing material for training pupils in the art of reading; but such material is too scrappy to lay a satisfactory foundation for reading good literature. The public libraries. Dr Canfield said in child must be led by orderly steps, I) to become a lover of good reading; and, 2) to become a somewhat reflective and appreciative reader of the best social, and individual responsibility calls books in our libraries. Such training for individual intelligence. The state will be successful only when the teacher maintains the public school system himself is a lover of good books; a through necessity, as an act of selfperson whose whole nature responds to protection. As the structure of gov-

educational association than to show in the author's thought, and whose intellectual training makes him appreciative of the beauty of the author's language in which his thought is clothed. With such a teacher the child soon acquires a love for the best literature, and he may be left to follow his own will in the choice of books. But many of our teachers have not had the training that would make them safe guides for children, and it is often better to designate one from the many teachers in the school to take charge of this work. authorities will soon recognize the need of expert training of children in the use of books, and will appoint at least one teacher in every graded school who has special fitness for such work?

I would again call your attention, 1) to the need of information concerning the libraries of the country and to the work which they are trying to do; 2) to the need of trained assistants in large public libraries and in large public schools, to give help to children and adults in the selection of books and in marking out courses of reading; 3) to the need of training in library methods in the normal schools of the country; 4) to the need of judicious training of pupils in public schools in the reading of books, in order that our children, at an early period of their lives, may become lovers of good literature; and, 5) to the criticism now going the rounds of the public press, that we read too much and think too little.

The department was next favored by a clear, ringing address from Dr Canfield of Columbia university, New York city, in which he outlined the rights, privileges, and advantages of the public schools, and showed to what extent these same elements belonged to the part:

Individual responsibility is the keynote of American life, political and ernment gives force to public opinion public opinion must be enlightened.

All governments from the very earliest day, even before the coming of modern civilization, have recognized that great men are more to be desired than great cities, and that to place wisdom in the service of the state is better than to gather silver and gold.

The conditions of a free and stable government are only to be found in a social life that is free and harmonious, and general intelligence and wisdom among the mass of the people lie at the very threshold of an effective social

harmony.

Intelligence is the true and only basis

of all industry.

Public education is a continual and effective force in uniting society, rather than dividing it.

The public schools and the public libraries together form the American system of free public education.

Teachers in public schools and members of the staff of public libraries should confer frequently concerning their common work.

Those in charge of public libraries ought to make large and generous provision for

- I Teachers, as expert workmen on special lines.
- 2 The immediate work of the child.
- 3 The work of the child after leaving school, projected along the same lines.

School authorities and teachers should give special attention to the library work of children:

- I Create reference libraries in the schoolhouses.
- 2 Direct the children to the public library for supplemental reading.
- 3 Urge those children who must drop out of school to continue reading on definite lines, the teacher continuing personal and helpful relations as long as possible.

Do not create special or branch libraries in the school buildings.

1 These are only convenient while the pupil is attending school.

2 These tend to withdraw the pupil from the "library atmosphere."

3 These give the pupil little, if any, acquaintance with the public library as such.

Do not overload fhe pupil with supplementary reading. Regular work is about all a pupil ought to do.

Given a generation of children who understand the place and value of a public library, and there will be no question as to an intelligent and effective citizenship.

Dr Canfield was followed by Mr Boyd, president of the State teachers' association of Mississippi. Mr Boyd in well chosen phrases showed the condition of educational institutions in the extreme south, and outlined the disadvantages under which the systems are at work, and which are responsible for the seemingly small progress made in library matters in the south. showed how that section of the country is still laboring under material stress, and how the efforts of the people cannot yet be turned aside from the advanced material prosperity to attend to the progress of any considerable amount of intellectual advancement.

The schools of the last decade are measurably in advance of the olden times, and the prospects for the future along educational lines, including libraries, museums, and art centers, are vastly encouraging notwithstanding the seemingly slow progress being made.

Irene Warren, librarian of School of education, University of Chicago, gave an outline of what the normal schools can do for teachers from the library side. Miss Warren pointed out the necessity of knowing the full uses of the book, various and kindred use of dictionaries, encyclopedias, and works of reference with which the teacher should be familiar. She dwelt on the necessity of knowing something of the mechanical processes of making books, the history of printing and binding, etc., and the advantages of knowing the sources of information and bibliographical aids within the reach of the teacher, geographically and otherwise.

Ange V. Milner, librarian of the State normal school, Normal, Ill., was asked to take the same subject. Unfortunately Miss Milner was prevented from being present at the meeting by a death

in her family.

Miss Milner's place on the program was occupied by W. I. Fletcher, librarian of Amherst college, Amherst, Mass., who as representative of the American Library Association brought greetings to the Library department of the National educational association. In the course of his remarks Mr Fletcher said:

I wish to speak of the A B C of reference work. Only after I had arranged the three heads indicated by these letters in the order of what I regard as their relative importance, did I perceive that it was this suggestive order. A stands for attendant; for it is one of the accepted ideas of the modern library that there must be an attendant ready and competent to meet the reader's questions, and that the reader should go directly to such an attendant rather than be sent to the catalog.

we call bibliography. It may seem strange that I should put this before the catalog if I had in mind anything but mere alphabetical order. But it is my conviction that bibliography belongs first. By this I mean that nothing can be so helpful in looking up reading on a subject as a well-made list of books and papers relating to it.

My C is a double-header; it stands for two things: classification and catalog. And here I put classification first, although alphabetical order would be the reverse. I do this because, as libraries are being more thoroughly classified, and readers are now often given free access to the shelves, the classification comes in as a better guide than the catalog.

As to the catalog, which I have thus pushed into the background (a pity it was not called dictionary, so I could brary catalog as a means of doing the kind of work of which we are speaking. The author catalog, from which we can learn whether a given book is in the library and where it may be found, is certainly the one essential piece of apparatus. But I have long felt, and often publicly so expressed myself, that our subject catalogs, do the best we may with them, are of little value compared with bibliographies (using this term in the broad sense in which I have interpreted it), and I think we shall do wisely if we slight them and bend our energies to the development of the bibliographical apparatus, and to its intelligent use by readers, with the help and guidance of the well-equipped and conscientious and devoted attendant, whom I thus make the Omega, as I made him (or her) the Alpha of this little talk.

On Thursday afternoon the meeting opened with an address by Isabel Lawrence, training teacher, State normal school, St Cloud, Minn., on, How shall children be led to love good books?

The child is greater than the book My B refers to this apparatus which and the book must wait upon his needs. The instinctive interests which predominate at any given period of child life, determine largely what he can appropriate from literature.

> The child before eight is interested in vivid images, but not in relations. He cares for action, for color and sense, for the marvelous and the impossible: hence he revels in myth and fairy tale. This child knows only the family; loves stories of children, delights in the Indian, but has no more comprehension of his own country than a Zulu savage. Rhythm attracts him to song and poem. Even his prose stories should "run in the ears like the noise of breakers.'

From 8 to 14 the boy reads invention and travel greedily, to find out how things are done. He loves the moving tale flavored with bloodshed and wonder. Give him this sort of incident in good literature where it embodies truth make it my D), I have only a few and thought, and he will soon reject words to say. My experience gives worthless stuff of his own accord. The me an increasing disrespect for the li- girl's book of this period is largely per-

nicious. Let the girl read her brother's book till her demand for the love story best class of novels.

From 14 to 18, in early adolescence, there is a craze for reading. It matters not how many books are read, so they be wholesome. Let the young mind catch fire at many points, so the spark be divine. A foundation of wide reading must be laid now for the close, log-

ical study of one book later.

There should be more story telling and oral reading in home, school, and library. It is not wicked to begin in the middle of a book, if that be its attractive point. It is as absurd to make a boy study the life of the author, to interest him in Ichabod Crane, as it would be to make a young man study the family records as a preliminary to falling in love with the daughter of the house.

Finally, any child will love good literature who is surrounded by its lovers. Before we legislate that every teacher must sing and draw, let us insist that no teacher who knows not literature, and loves it not, be appointed to take charge of children of any age.

Ouite an animated discussion followed the reading of Miss Lawrence's paper, when Elsie Dinsmore, Polly Oliver, and the like came in for their

usual castigation.

Melvil Dewey followed with an exceedingly interesting talk on, The place of the library in education. Mr Dewey made a plea for the library to be given a place abreast of the school, as a cooperative power to carry on the work in the public schools. He classed education in two groups: education of the school and education of the home. Education as a system of schools may be divided into five groups: kindergartens, elementary schools, high schools, colleges, and universities, where study is the main business in life.

The home or library education comes in with other matters of living, and is supplemented by means of museums, art galleries, study clubs, libraries, etc.

that the students come from the school with an appetite for reading-the readcannot be ignored; then give her the ing habit—than that any number of credits be awarded. Reading is the most important influence in the formation of character. Reflection and judgment grow out of it, and reflection forms the chief difference between the lower animals and man. Present instincts and habits of animals are not much in advance of those of earlier stages. Man, however, by the use of his power of reflection, progresses forward from the highest point reached by his predecessor, beginning where others leave off and advancing always beyond the farthest point obtained.

> The next paper was presented by Livingstone McCartney, superintendent of schools, Hopkinsville, Ky., on The library and the school as coordinate forces in education. Mr McCartney pointed out the place of the library and the school by considering the twofold question-how can the library be made more serviceable to the child in the daily performance of his work in the school; and, how can the school life of the child be so ordered as to give him the greatest possible command of the contents of good books in his sub-

sequent career?

At the close of Mr McCartney's paper the officers for the ensuing year were reported as follows: President, J. H. Canfield, Columbia university, New York city; vice-president, Reuben Post Halleck, Boys' school, Louisville, Ky.; secretary, M. E. Ahern, editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, Chicago, Ill.

Mr Utley then extended an invitation in behalf of James E. Scripps for those present to visit his home for a view of the collection in his art gallery and his

personal library.

The visit to the library was most in-The room is a reproduction teresting. of a typical English cathedral chapter house on a reduced scale, with the exception of the stone seats around the walls, for which book shelves have been substituted.

The characteristics of the style are Mr Dewey insisted that it was better the lancet-shaped windows, the de-

tached marble vaulting-shafts, diapered wall surfaces, and dog-tooth ornament in the window jambs. The ribs which support the vaulted ceiling are not mere ornament, but real slender arches of stone upon which the filling between rests. The section of the ribs is copied from those of the Temple church in London, some of the diaper patterns from Westminster abbey, and other details are true to famous originals.

The library comprises books printed before the year 1500, Bibles of the principal versions, and works on bibliography, art, architecture, engraving, and biography, with some manuscripts on vellum.

The art gallery contained works from many of the famous artists of Europe and America, representing the various schools of art that have been in the lead in the various periods of history.

#### Library Meetings

Illinois-At a called meeting of the library association in the parlors of the hotel at Waukesha July 4, Miss Sharp read a very complete account, gathered carefully from the records of the association, of the efforts which have been made heretofore to secure a library commission for Illinois. In this report the fact was brought out that no committee appointed to bring about this end had ever been discharged, and also that there was considerable divergence in the opinions offered by the different committees appointed

At the close of the report Miss Ahern made the point that nothing could be accomplished unless all worked together in harmony, and moved that all these committees be discharged and the record cleared for new work. tion was carried. After an earnest appeal from Mr Hopkins for earnest help and interest from the members the meeting adjourned.

Iowa-The State library association of Iowa will meet October 9-10, in Burlington. Special efforts are being made for a good meeting. The following states in the program of the meeting. program is being arranged:

#### Wednesday afternoon

Library extension. State, Johnson Brigham. County, J. M. Brainard. City, Alice Tyler. The child, his kingdom, the library, Mary E. Dousman. Libraries and schools, Miss Fordyce.

#### Wednesday evening

Reception. Thursday morning

Library architecture, J. L. Mauran. The obligations of a citizen to the library, Mrs Towner. The librarian and the public, Ella McLoney.

Thursday afternoon

Excursion on the river.

Thursday evening

Address. The book and the people, Herbert Putnam. Informal reception in honor of Mr Putnam

Friday morning

Round table of practical work, Conducted by Alice Tyler.

#### Friday afternoon

College library section. Speakers Mrs B. A. Ridgway, M. H. Douglas, M. A. Carpenter.

Missouri-An informal meeting of the library association was held at the Fountain Spring house at Waukesha on the afternoon of July 4. About 15 members were present, including all but one of the executive committee.

The matter of the proposed State library commission was discussed and a program of education agreed upon in preparation for the next assembly.

Mr Gerould, of the State university. announced that one of the forthcoming bulletins issued by the university would probably be devoted to the extension of library interests in the state.

After some discussion it was agreed, tentatively, that the next annual meeting of the association should be held in Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 24 and 25, and that an effort should be made to secure the cooperation of the neighboring J. T. GEROULD, Sec'y.

New Hampshire—The semi-annual meeting of the N. H. L. A. was held in Peterboro, N. H., June 27, in the Unitarian church. The president, Miss Blanchard, of Concord, called the meet-

ing to order.

The preliminary business disposed of, short addresses of welcome were extended to the association by selectman Ezra M. Smith, for the town, and James F. Brennan, of the State library commission, in behalf of the library officials. Mr Wright of Whitefield made a strong plea in favor of abolishing the age limit. He contended that age was no criterion of mental capacity, and that while New Hampshire was by no means behind her sister New England states in up-todate library methods, there were now 23 libraries in the state whose age limit was 12 years, a smaller number at 9, 10, 11, 13, and one at 16 years. An active discussion of why and how the library should assist the schools followed.

Mrs Jennie H. Field, of the Peterboro high school, gave an interesting account of her method of using the library in connection with school work, and testified to her appreciation of its value from the teacher's standpoint. Mr Brennan urged strongly upon the librarians the duty of collecting material relating to the history of their towns, the value particularly of town and school reports, a complete file of which may be obtained if persistently looked for.

Miss Chandler gave an interesting account of the collection at Lancaster, Mass., and the way it was made. It was evident that from the librarian's "point of view" in justice to all some rules must necessarily be enforced to the letter, but there were others that might be interpreted less arbitrarily and

not fail in their object.

The question box disposed of, the meeting adjourned until evening, and the visitors accepted the invitation of the library committee to take a carriage drive and view Peterboro from some of its many hills, and later a visit was made to Upland farm, the beautiful home of George S. Morison and Miss Morison.

The evening session opened at 7.30. Miss Morison's paper contained many valuable suggestions in regard to the selection of books for libraries. Small libraries, she thought, were not always evenly developed in their different departments, the art section particularly was apt to be neglected. The standard library symposium might have been a more spirited affair if the steadily increasing heat had not forced itself upon everybody's attention. Mr Gilman of Nashua moved. That the association return their thanks to the library committee for the attention bestowed upon the arrangements for their comfort and entertainment, to Miss Morison for her helpful paper and generous hospitality, and to the officials of the Unitarian church for the free use of the vestry.

The meeting then adjourned until January next, when the association holds its annual meeting in Concord, N. H.

New York—The State library association holds its annual meeting at Lake Placid September 21-30. A good program is promised. The New York Central make a half-fare rate on all its lines and branches, including the Boston & Albany. The tickets are good from September 15-25 going, and till October 15 returning.

Wisconsin-The friends of the library movement in that state held a very enthusiastic meeting on July 4. The principal topic of discussion was to find some plan by which to induce the United States government to cooperate with public libraries everywhere, by combining with its rural free delivery free transportation of books from public libraries to the farms, and also transportation of children to central township schools. The subject was presented by L. M. Newman and was thoroughly discussed. Judge Pereles of Milwaukee presented the need that exists in isolated communities of foreigners for books in their own language. English books are of little help where they cannot be read. Judge Pereles has given Wisconsin the only

German traveling libraries in the United Evening, 1, Address. R. R. Bowker.

Mrs Charles Morris told of the splendid work done for women's clubs, and asked for a traveling reference library system aided by the state.

Miss Marvin, Miss Stearns, Mr Lawson, and Senator Stout pointed out the value of the various phases of the traveling library movement, speaking hopefully of what is being done in the work.

#### Ohio Library Association

Program of the seventh annual meeting, October 1-4, 1901, Sandusky

Tuesday, October 1

Evening, 1, Address of welcome. Rev. Winfield Baer.

2, President's address. Prof. A. S. Root.

3, Evolution of the library in San-dusky. Rev. Charles Martin.

4, Inspection of library.

Wednesday, October 2

Morning, I, Reports of secretary and treasurer. 2, Paper, Bibliography in the small library. E. L. Abbott.

3, Greeting from the A. L. A. Electra C. Doren.

4, Reports of committees:

(a) Relation of libraries to schools. (b) Library training.

(c) Library extension. Afternoon, Out-of-door excursion.

Evening, Reception.

Thursday, October 3

Morning, 1, Short business session with reports of auditing committee and committee on necrology.

2, Section meetings. (a) Small library section.

I, Selection of books for the small library. Mary C. Parker. 2, Reference work in the small library. Anne C. Granger.

library. Anne C. Granger. 3, The library and the com-munity. Mildred C. Wood.

(b) College section. Subject for discussion: What should be the ratio between the expenditure for books and the expenditure for administration in a college library.

Thursday, October 3

Afternoon, 1, Exposition of existing library laws. Judge Tod B. Galloway.

2, Symposium, led by W. T. Porter. Subject: What has been done in various committees under these

3, Report of legislative committee.

2, Music. 4. Music.

5, Address. Herbert Putnam.

Friday, October 4

Morning, I, Business session.

2, Paper. Librarians and teachers.

Emma Graham.

3, Address. Collection of historical material by libraries. E. O Ran-

#### Library Schools

#### Amherst summer school

From July 15 to August 16 the Amherst Summer school of Library economy held its eleventh session at Amherst college library under the direction of W. I. Fletcher.

The class numbered 50; 13 different states were represented; students came from Louisiana, Illinois, and Maine. About one-half of the class had previous library training, several had just graduated from college, and others were teachers who desired a knowledge of library methods in order to better assist the city libraries in their school distribution.

Much time was spent on the principles laid down in Cutter's Catalogue rules. Dana's Library primer was used as a text-book. The Library school rules, Dewey's Decimal classification, and Cutter's Expansive classification A vast amount of were also studied. practical work was done, catalog cards and shelf lists written, classification numbers, both the decimal and expansive, assigned to books, and proof lists of new books corrected. Among the libraries visited were the Forbes library at Northampton, the Easthampton library, the Springfield library, and at the end of the session a party of over 20 accompanied Mr Fletcher to Boston and inspected the Boston Public, the Athenæm, the State and Harvard university libraries. Visits were made to the Riverside press and the Library Bureau, where the party enjoyed seeing the modern library furnishings.

Although the summer was very warm the rooms where the sessions were held were very cool. The monotony of the session was interspersed by pleasant excursions to Mounts Tom and Holyoke, and other near-by resorts. The class spent many pleasant evenings at the home of Mr and Mrs Fletcher and at the homes of other Amherst residents.

F. W. S., Harvard Law library.

#### Chautaugua

The Chautauqua library school was inaugurated as one of the departments of the Chautauqua summer schools, by a five weeks' session held at Chautauqua, N. Y., from July 11 to August 15. The attendance was double the number expected for the first year, and this made an auspicious opening. There were 41 students from 20 different states registered, and all but seven of these completed the required work.

Principles of cataloging, including accession and shelf department, classification, reference and loan work, and many practical details, were taught. The cataloging and classification were taught at Chautauqua, while the class used the James Prendergast free library for reference and practical work; II trips were made to Jamestown for this study, and it was found that the Prendergast library was well adapted as a laboratory for library students.

Mr Dewey, general director of the school, spent a number of days at Chautauqua for its organization, and gave the opening lectures, establishing at once a high standard for the school. Mr Elmendorf, of the Buffalo public library, Mr Eastman, state inspector of libraries, and Mr Peck, of the Gloversville free library, delivered very helpful and inspiring lectures during the session, giving the class not only a broad conception of the meaning of the work, but also most practical information.

The routine instruction was divided between Miss Foote and Miss Hazeltine, who found the class so enthusiastic and so eager to study, that it was possible to cover much ground in the few weeks. Since many of the class came with no idea of taking the entire course, but of getting certain lines of work

most needed in their home libraries, the fact that so many decided to take the prescribed course was gratifying in itself. An optional examination was offered at the close of the term for all who desired certificates, and 27 members of the class received them. Of these, II acquitted themselves so creditably that a certificate with honor was awarded them.

No school of the Chautauqua summer school system ever opened so auspiciously, and the Chautauqua management is much encouraged for its future.

The registration of the class was as follows:

Abell, Mary L., Oneonta, N. Y.

Ainsworth, Marguerite, assistant, Toledo (Ohio) public library.

Bissell, Estelle A., substitute, Corning (N. Y.) free library.

Bowden, Marguerite M. I., assistant, Helena (Mont.) public library.

Bunker, Cora H., assistant, Toledo (Ohio) public library.

Burrows, Dorothy E., librarian, Rutherford (N. J.) free public library.
Caldwell, Mary R., librarian, Tome institute,

Caldwell, Mary R., librarian, Tome institute,
Port Deposit, Md.
Carothers, Wilhelmina E., assistant librarian,
Grand Forks (N. D.) public library.

Grand Forks (N. D.) public library.

Dewees, Watson W., librarian, Westtown friends school, Westtown, Pa.

Dow, Mary E., librarian, Midland (Mich.)

library association.

Frazier, Jessie B., librarian, Bureau of American

Republics, Washington, D. C. Garrott, Susan H., librarian, Woman's college, Frederick, Md.

Heyward, Maude, assistant librarian, Georgia historical society, Savannah, Ga.

Hough, Clara, ex-librarian, West Virginia university library, Morgantown, W. Va. Hoyt, Carrie E., librarian, High school library,

Jamaica, N. Y. Kniest, Adele L., assistant, Free public library,

Colorado Springs, Col.
Knight, Lulu M., assistant, Newton (Kan.) public library.

Laundon, Leonoro, librarian, Wellington (Ohio)
public library.

MacIntyre, Anna L., librarian, College for women, Western Reserve university, Cleveland, Ohio.

McSurely, Ella G., assistant, Miami university library, Oxford, Ohio.

Mosher, Bessie B., assistant, Oberlin college library, Oberlin, Ohio.

Naeseth, Charles A., librarian, Luther college, Decorah, Iowa. Nicholl, Mary W., librarian, Bellevue college,

Bellevue, Neb.

Palmer, Carolyn, librarian, John B. Stetson university, Deland, Fla. Parkinson, Margaret B., assistant, Helena

(Mont.) public library Potter (Mrs), Elizabeth H., trustee, Tyler

(Tex.) library. Randall, Clara H., assistant, Morse institute library, Natick, Mass.

Reed (Mrs), Ella C., librarian, Boise (Idaho)

circulating library.

Reeder, Louise M., librarian, Public school

library, Williamsport, Pa.
Reynolds, S. Janette, librarian, Brockport
(N. Y.) normal school library.
Rick, Bertha A., Jamestown, N. Y.

Rushworth, Mabel L., substitute, High school library, Jamestown, N. Y

Sherwin, Hetty M. B., Jamestown, N. Y. Sisler, Della J., cataloger, Kansas State normal school, Emporia, Kan.

Smith, Cornelia G., assistant, Warren (Ohio) public library.

Smith, Edith J., assistant, public library, Rockville, Conn. Totten, Bessie L., assistant librarian, Antioch

college, Yellow Springs, Ohio.
Triepel (Mrs), Emma M. V., assistant, Treasury department library, Washington, D. C. Underhill, Hannah L., librarian, Davenport library, Bath, N. Y.

Van Scoter, William B., librarian, Y. M. C. A. library, Buffalo, N. Y. Waters, Alice G., librarian, Essex institute,

Salem, Mass.

#### Illinois

A reunion of former students of the Illinois State library school was held at Waukesha, July 5. Forty-six of the Alumni association of this school attended the meeting of the A. L. A. this vear.

A reunion dinner was held at the Fountain Spring house and a pleasant hour spent in hearing of the experiences of classmates. Following the dinner was the business meeting of the association. The future policy of the association was discussed and plans were made for a definite line of work. It was voted at this meeting that the association shall each year send a lecturer to the Illinois State library school, who shall address the students on some subject of interest to students of library science.

The hope was expressed that a reunion might be held at Champaign some time during the coming year.

An interesting report by Miss Sharp, on the growth and the present condition of the library school, was read, showing the changes which have come to it from its connection with the uni-

versity of Illinois.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Charlotte Foye, John Crerar library, Chicago; 1st vice-president, Elizabeth Wales, P. L. Quincy, Ill.; 2nd vicepresident, Minnie Bridgman, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio; secretary and treasurer, Margaret Mann, University of Illinois, Urbana. Executive committee, Elizabeth Cory, Carnegie library, Lawrenceville Br., Pittsburg, Pa.; Evva L. Moore, Scoville institute, Oak Park, Ill.; Julia E. Elliott, Marinette, MARGARET MANN, Sec'y.

Pratt

The entering class of 1901 will num-Ten have had previous library ber 25. experience.

Caroline Burnite, class of '93, resigned her position as librarian of the Jacob Tome institute in June, in order to spend

a year abroad.

Annie Emery, 1901, Margaret A. Gash, 1900, Mrs Flora de Gogorza, 1901, Mrs Edith Humphrey, '97, Fanny Sheldon, 1901, Annie M. Thayer, 1901, Lida V. Thompson, '99, Eliza Witham, '95, have been engaged as assistants by the Brooklyn public library.

Harriet B. Gooch, '98, has resigned her position as librarian at North Brookfield, Mass., and accepted that of cataloger and classifier in the Portland (Ore.)

library, recently made free.

Harriet E. Hassler, '98, has been appointed to the staff of the Buffalo public library, in charge of the work with the public schools.

Amy Louise Phelan, '99, has been appointed accession clerk in the library

of the University of California.

Lucy Burr Wadhams, '98, has been engaged to reorganize the library at Torrington, Conn., where a new building was recently dedicated.

S. Frances Worthington, 1901, has been engaged to take charge of the in formation desk at Pratt institute free library, in place of Winitred L. Taylor,

resigned.

# News from the Field

Frances Hayes has been appointed librarian at Mt Holyoke (Mass.) college.

Walpole, Mass., has received \$15,000 for a public library from Andrew Carnegie.

Frank H. Whitmore, New York 1901, has been appointed assistant librarian of Bowdoin college library.

The annual report of the Providence public library shows a total of 41,568v. in open-shelf departments.

The new library presented to Guildhall, Vt., by Col. E. C. Benton of Boston, was opened to the public July 10.

The report of Bowdoin college for 1900-01 gives floor plans and drawings of the new library building under construction.

Ellen B. Cramton, New York 1900-1901, has been appointed librarian of the Levi Heywood memorial library, Gardner, Mass.

D. B. Hall, B. L. S. New York State library school, class of 1901, has been appointed librarian of the Millicent library, Fairhaven, Mass.

The new public library, equipped and presented to Hampton Falls, Mass., by John T. Brown of Newburyport, was opened to the public August 30.

The Bridgeport, Conn., public library will hold an exhibit of original drawings for books and periodicals in the new art gallery Oct. 21 to Dec. 21, 1901.

The Field memorial library, a gift from Marshall Field of Chicago to Conway, Mass, in memory of his father and mother, was dedicated July 13. The gift is valued at \$250,000.

The Tadoc Long memorial library of Buckfield, Maine, built and equipped with books by Hon. John D. Long, was dedicated and opened for use August 17. It was given in memory of his father and mother.

Mrs M. H. G. Banks, who has been for the past four years at the New York public library, has left there and resumed her specialty of organization work. Her address is now Dyer library, Saco, Maine.

Helen K. Gay, of the New York State library school, class of '95, has resigned her position as librarian of the Mt Vernon (N. Y.) public library to become librarian of the New London (Conn.) public library.

Mary A. Richardson, for 10 years librarian of New London, Conn., has resigned her position. The library board placed upon its record a vote of high appreciation of the work of Miss Richardson as librarian.

Clinton, Mass., is another New England town not averse to receiving a library donation from Mr Carnegie. At a special town meeting recently it was voted to amend the by-laws for the purpose of guaranteeing the annual appropriation of \$2500 for library support, Mr Carnegie having offered \$25,000 on the usual conditions.

In the recent annual report of the Boston public the library system is outlined as follows: The library system comprises: The Central library on Copley sq.; 10 branch libraries, with permanent collections of books; 20 delivery stations, of which seven are readingrooms, four service stations, and nine shop stations; 29 engine houses receiving books on deposit; 21 schools (11 supplied from the Central library and 10 from the branches); six institutions receiving deposits of books. A total of 87 agencies as against 72 on Feb. 1, 1900.

The report of the Hartford (Conn.) public library for 1900-01 contains the following:

An interesting feature of the year has been the development of branch work in the schools. Five school branches are now in operation, the charge of the circulation being in the hands of the teachers and wholly without expense to the library. The circulation of books

half of the whole number of books given out in a year in the old days of the Hartford library association.

The circulation, including the issue through branches in the schools, reached 218,700v.

#### Central Atlantic

The Carnegie library at Pittsburg has opened a training school for children's librarians.

The fifth annual report of the Carnegie library at Pittsburg contains drawings and illustrations of the various branch libraries in the city.

Adam Strohm, Illinois 1900, and last year librarian of Armour institute, has resigned his position to become librarian of the Trenton, N. J., public library.

Mary Mathews, of the New York State library school, '99-1900, has been appointed librarian of the American institute of mining engineers, New York

The report of the Newark (N. J.) public library states that in the nine years in which open shelves have been used in that library only 375 books have been lost.

W. F. Stevens, for some years librarian of the railroad branch of the Y.M. C. A. of New York city, has resigned his position to become librarian of the Carnegie library of Homestead, Pa,

A series of weekly talks on selected subjects was given in the study-room of the Montclair (N. J.) public library during the summer vacation. The talks were brief, of a popular nature, and 15 minutes at the close were spent in a review of the books in the library on the subject under discussion. The children were then allowed to handle the books and select from them such as they wished to read. The attendance was good.

past three years of the New York public library (Lenox building), and for many years previously map editor, ing to swim, July 5.

through these channels has been nearly printer, and publisher, and agent for the sale of the maps of the British and European governments, is open for engagements (temporary or otherwise) to classify, take care of and catalog maps, plans, charts, and atlases, or to lecture or instruct librarians or their assistants in the same in any way agreeable to their requirements.

> The report of the Aguilar Free library society of New York for the past two years has just been issued, and shows a record of remarkable progress in excellent work. The society maintains four free libraries, mostly situated in poor and densely populated sections of the city, and show a large increase in circulation each year. During the two years noted the library at 110th st. has been transferred from a small store to a new and well-equipped library building; additional rooms have been added to the Fifty-ninth st. and East Broadway libraries, and in March, 1901, the library in Fifth st. was moved to a large building on the corner of Avenue C and Seventh st. The openshelf system is now used in all of these libraries, and each one has a reference room and also a children's room. During the past two years 45,676 readers have made use of the reference room at 197 East Broadway.

Detroit has been offered \$750,000 for a public library by Andrew Carnegie.

The Newberry library of Chicago has secured the Bonaparte philological collection of 15,000v.

Moline, Ill., has been given \$37,000 for a public library by Andrew Carnegie on the usual conditions.

Catherine D. Paddock, New York '98-'99, was married July 20 to William Baker, an attorney of Chicago.

The friends of Miss Milner, librarian of Normal (Ill.) university, will sympa-Thomas Letts, at presen and for the thize with her in the loss of her brother, who was drowned while trying to rescue a companion whom he was teach-

The new public library of Sedalia, Mo., the gift of Andrew Carnegie, was dedicated July 30 with appropriate ceremonies.

Marshfield, Wis., has opened a beautiful new library building. Della Ellinwood, of Madison, has been appointed librarian.

May Z. Springer, New York '99-1900, has begun a six months' engagement to catalog the Reuben McMillan free library, Youngstown, Ohio.

Mrs A. C. Reed, Illinois, 1900, was married at Champaign, September 8, to Dr J. B. Scott, dean of the law school of the University of Illinois.

Elma Warwick has resigned as librarian of the Northern Illinois Normal school at De Kalb. Madeline Milner has been elected her successor.

Esther Crawford, head cataloger at Dayton (Ohio) public library, has resigned and gone into the same position at Western Reserve university, Cleveland.

Beloit, Wis., has received \$25,000 for a public library building from Andrew Carnegie, with the usual conditions of an annual appropriation of 10% of the gift for maintenance.

Bertha M. Brown has resigned as librarian of the Eau Claire (Wis.) library and gone into the work of the Free library commission. Ellen D. Biscoe succeeds Miss Brown at Eau Claire.

East St Louis public library shows an increased interest and use under the new management. About 50,000v. were sent out for home use last year notwithstanding a smallpox scare. Four delivery stations have been established.

Full information concerning the library of Adelbert college, Western Reserve university, is given in a pamphlet, issued by the librarian, E. C. Williams, entitled, Sketch of the history and present condition of the library of Adelbert city. college.

university has founded a library fund State federation of Women's clubs, 55

with a nucleus of \$543, the proceeds of which is to buy books for the university library. The fund is known as the Class of 1895 Library fund, and will yield 4% interest.

Theodore S. Parvin, the oldest librarian in point of service in the United States, died at his home in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, June 28, age 84 years. He was the first librarian in Iowa, and at the time of his death was librarian of the Masonic library of Cedar Rapids, a large and well-housed collection of masonic literature.

The Wisconsin free library commission has issued a list of books on science and engineering, suggested for small libraries. C. F. Burgess, E. E. of the University of Wisconsin, assisted in compiling the list. The classification is as follows: Books of an elementary nature, books of general interest, books treating of the practical application of science and engineering, representative advanced engineering books.

The Dayton (Ohio) public library opened four vacation branches in four school districts in charge of four teachers, employed by the library board, during the past summer months. About 600v. were kept in each branch, which were open to all the people of the district. Catalogs and lists of recent purchases were also at hand, from which they could make selections to be sent to them from the main library.

The thirty-second annual report of the Cleveland public library contains, as a frontispiece, an ingenious drawing surrounding a dollar sign as a center, showing the distribution of the Cleveland taxes through the various city departments, and thereby making a striking comparison of the library's share with that of other departments. The report also shows 113 library agencies in addition to the main library carrying out the library system of the

Mounted pictures have been added to The class of '95 of the Northwestern the traveling libraries of the Kentucky boxes being kept in circulation among the mountains. The mountain settlement work is an important feature of the organization, and is carried on by a number of young women who take up temporary abode among the people of remote regions, where the home is a one-room cabin, and where there are no modern advantages for education and moral and social advancement.

The public library of Cincinnati, during September, had interesting collections, especially pertinent to the season, of views of the more noted colleges. Of those for women only, Vassar, Welesley, Bryn Mawr and Elmira were given Harvard, Princeton, Cornell, Leland Stanford Jr., Oberlin, and the universities of Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Wisconsin, form another set. A short historical sketch is given of each college or university shown. As the 200th anniversary of Yale university comes in October, no space was given to Yale at this time, but there will be a special display about October 15.

#### South

Pensacola, Fla., has been offered \$15,000 for a public library by Andrew Carnegie.

The Carnegie public library of Atlanta, Ga., will be ready to open by October 1.

F. L. Carroll, of Waco, Tex., has given \$60,000 to Baylor university to be used for a library building and chapel.

William Beer contributed to the New Orleans States of Aug. 13, 1901, an interesting account of the rise and growth of libraries in New Orleans.

The beautiful new library building, given by Andrew Carnegie to Oklahoma City, Okla., was opened to the public August 29 with appropriate ceremonies. About 5000 persons attended.

The heirs of the late W. T. Willey, formerly U. S. senator from West Virginia, have made a formal donation to the West Virginia university of the private library of Mr Willey. The library and Sawyer.

boxes being kept in circulation among the mountains. The mountain settlement work is an important feature of the organization, and is carried on by a number of young women who take contains 18,000v., exclusive of government reports and manuscripts, and is invaluable because of its completeness respecting the formation and early history of the state of West Virginia.

#### West

Edna D. Bullock has been elected librarian of the Nebraska library commission. She begins her work October 1.

The ladies of the library association of Abilene, Kan, took the management of a local merry-go-round for one evening recently, for the benefit of the public library, and turned over \$88 to the library fund.

#### Pacific Coast

Andrew Carnegie has offered \$20,000 to Riverside, Cal., for a public library building.

Andrew Carnegie has offered \$750,000 for a public library to San Francisco on the usual terms.

Harriet B. Gooch, Brooklyn '98, librarian at Brookfield, Mass., has resigned her position there and taken a position with the Portland (Oregon) library.

The library commission, recently appointed by Gov. Rogers of Washington, consists of the following persons: Susan Lord Currier of Mt Vernon, Dr F. B. Coe of Seattle, State Supt. R. B. Bryan, F. B. Graves, president of the State university, and E. M. Bryan, president of the Agricultural college.

The law department of Stanford university is in receipt of a gift of the private library of the late Judge Sawyer of the United Stafes Circuit court, from his son. This library consists of about 500v., and includes a complete set of American decisions, American reports, California reports, New York reports, and, of special interest to the law student, 10v. of Sawyer's own decisions. Among the New York reports are some very rare volumes. It is a significant fact that the law department has received as gifts the libraries of two of California's most noted judges, Field and Sawyer.

#### Foreign

Andrew Carnegie has presented to Dalkeith, six miles from Edinburgh, Scotland, £4000 for the establishment of a public library.

The last of the famous Ashburnham collection of rare books and manuscripts has been sold, and this magnificent collection, begun in 1814, has been scattered in many directions by its present owner, the fifth earl of Ashburnham.

Reversing the usual method of giving out lists of the "best-selling books," a public library in Lincoln, England, has published a list of books that "have never left the shelves." The list is surprisingly small; only 35 books out of a total of 10,538 in the library have never been taken out. It is almost superfluous to say that none of the 35 are novels. They are mostly works on theology and history, with two or three technical scientific books.—Boston Journal.

The collection of illuminated and other manuscripts belonging to the Earl of Crawford has been sold en bloc at Sotheran's to Miss Rylands, founder of the John Rylands library at Man-It is now housed in Haigh chester. hall at Wigan, with the rest of Lord Crawford's precious library. The collection includes many mediæval western manuscripts, and eastern manuscripts of all ages. It is superior to the recently dispersed Ashburnham collection in the early dates of many of its treasures, and the costly richness of many of the bindings in metals and ivory of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. One manuscript, the letters of Cyprian, dates from the seventh century.

Among the countless treasures at Windsor castle is the precious collection of books, prints, and mss in the royal library. When the libraries formed by George II and George III went to the British museum the castle was for some years without any literature at

all. But under William IV forgotten collections were unearthed at St James' palace, Hampton court, and elsewhere, and brought together at Windsor, and day after day for 20 years the Prince Consort devoted his leisure moments to the congenial task of repairing the gaps in this new library.

Richard Holmes has been librarian of the library since 1870, and has carried on the work started by the Prince Consort, until the library numbers 120,000v one of the richest private collections in the world. Perhaps his greatest treasure is one of the only two perfect copies of the earliest dated printed books, the 1457 Mainz Psalter, whose value runs into five figures. Here are to be seen also a dozen Caxtons, including the only perfect copy of his Æsop, a Coverdale, Luther's own Bible, Mozart's first Oratorio, the Testament that Charles I carried to the scaffold, his folio Shakespeare, Oriental mss. encrusted with gems, and many another volume to be seen nowhere else.

Queen Victoria would never willingly permit novels of the moment to encumber her shelves, although there are one or two first editions of Kipling and some presentation volumes. There is a little poetry also, including a choice copy which Alfred Tennyson presented of his works as a laureate's gift. The bulk of the library, however, is made up of books on history, biography, heraldry, belles lettres and the fine arts, including the caricatures of three centuries, to say nothing of the 20,000.

For the last year or two an assistant has been busy upon a typed card-catalog of authors and subjects, in the manner of the Guild Hall library, and this is understood to have enabled his majesty to observe the presence of large numbers of presentation and other volumes which can now be spared. It is said, indeed, that a large proportion will be distributed in various directions later on.

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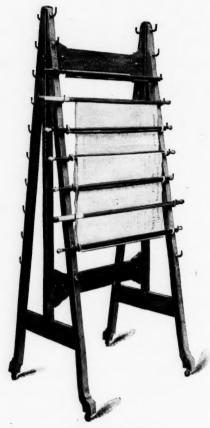
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Webster (Mass.) Public Library.
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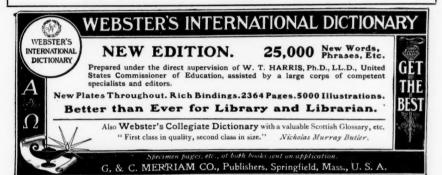
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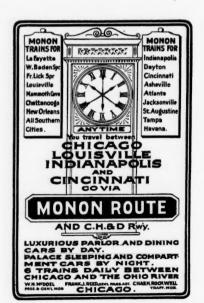
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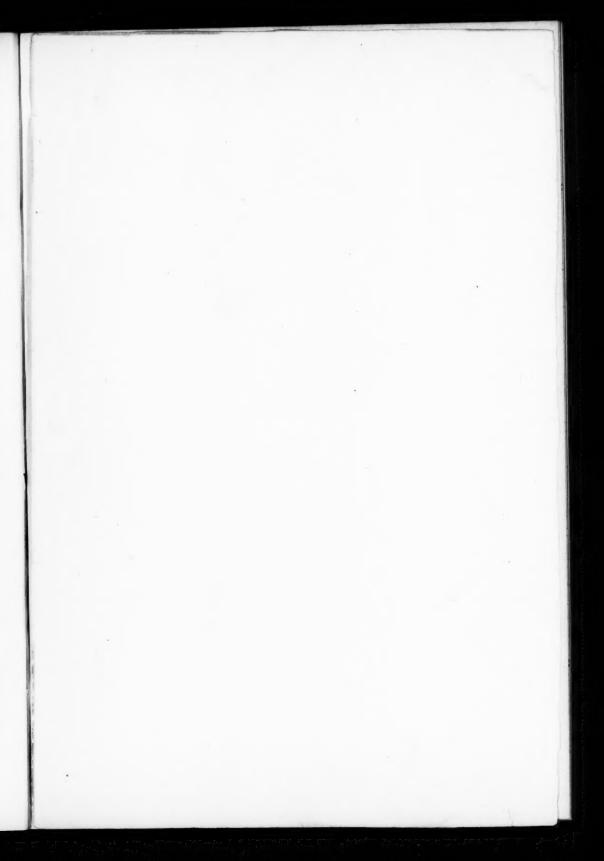
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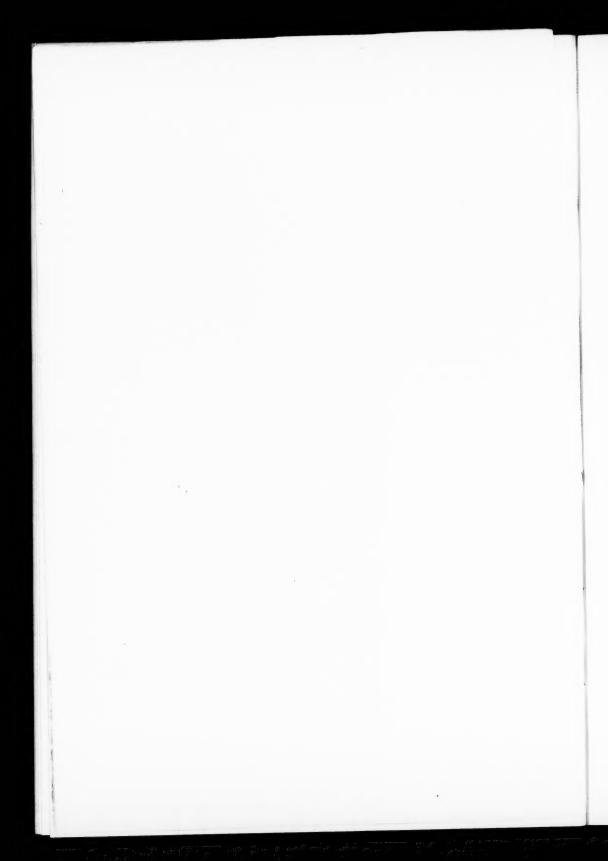
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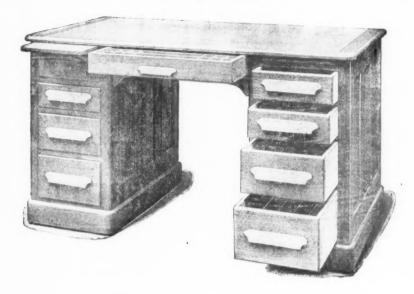
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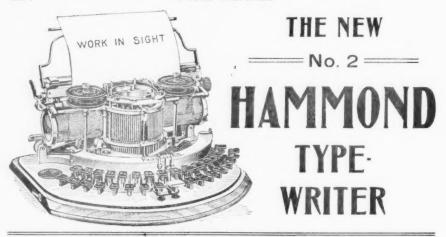
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